



# THE MADISON COURIER

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2024      Serving the Courier area since 1837      NEWSSTAND • \$1.25

## Developer closes on land for Residences at Sunrise Crossing

**BY BOB DEMAREE**

Closing on the sale of land for the first phase of the Residences at Sunrise Crossing housing development took place Tuesday.

“Our work in bringing this major investment to our community has finally come to fruition after years of planning and partnerships with our two developers,” said Mayor Bob Courtney on the development by Winterwood Incorporated that will provide housing for dozens of families on the former Madison Plaza site that was previously developed for national retail by CRM Companies as the Shoppes at Sunrise Crossing opening last year. “I am grateful for their investment in Madison. This elevates the city’s housing strategy that is vital to our community’s growth.”

The first phase of Residences at Sunrise Crossing will include 93 units and a clubhouse with a second phase to follow that is expected to provide approximately 183 units overall, a housing project Courtney said is a private-public partnership between the City of Madison and Winterwood Development with an initial private investment of approximately \$18 million.

He said the project brings more than just housing including “the creation of dozens of short-term and long-term job opportunities, not to mention the use of many local providers of goods and services during construction. Once completed, the Sunrise Crossing mixed-use development will include an investment of over \$50 million in national retail and housing investments.”

The 7.65 acre property, the back portion of the original Madison Plaza site, is located just east of Shoppes at Sunrise Crossing. Phase one accounts for 4.167 acres while phase two is 3.483 acres. Winterwood Incorporated is paying \$475,000 for the property purchase of phase one with a total of \$900,000 for both parcels together. Tony Steinhardt III, the city’s economic development director, said there was a note on the mortgage for phase two with that portion being paid when that part begins.

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## VETERAN MEMORIAL WREATHS



Madison Mayor Bob Courtney, along his grandson, Hudson, and wife, Tammy, lays wreaths during Saturday's Wreaths Across America event at the Indiana Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Madison.



Ken McWilliams pulls down a box of wreaths during Saturday's Wreaths Across America event for family and friends to lay wreaths at the Indiana Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Madison.



A large turnout participated in Saturday's Wreaths Across America event at the Indiana Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Madison, placing holiday wreaths on the graves of all veterans buried there.

## City closes on bonds needed to begin Main Street overhaul

**BY BOB DEMAREE**

Madison Mayor Bob Courtney spent a portion of Tuesday's City Council — the final meeting of the year — reviewing the city's accomplishments, noting that Madison is wrapping up 2024 with a strong finish and particularly over the last few days.

“It’s a great week for Madison,” said Courtney, citing a closing with German American Bank on the Madison Main Street Infrastructure Bond that will fund major improvements for downtown traffic and pedestrians in 2025.

The Main Street Infrastructure Bond is part of the funding for an estimated \$21 million Main Street project to resurface, improve pedestrian safety and calm traffic from Broadway Street to the top of Hanover Hill with work beginning late next year. Issuing the bonds will allow the city to maximize a \$1.5 million Community Crossing Matching Grant (CCMG) the city will be applying for in January with the bonds providing a full \$1.5 million match so the city can implement its Main Street Master Plan.

SEE **CITY/PAGE A8**

## Christmas Closings

**BY THE COURIER STAFF**

Madison City Hall offices, including the water office and the Brown Gym, will be closed Tuesday, Dec. 24 and Wednesday, Dec. 25 for Christmas.

City offices will re-open for regular business hours, Tuesday, Dec. 26. The transfer station will be open Tuesday, Dec. 24, from 8 a.m. to noon and closed Wednesday, Dec. 25. Trash and recycling will run on schedule Tuesday but compost will not be picked up. Wednesday and Thursday trash pickup will be delayed by one day the week of Dec. 23-27.

All offices will reopen for regular business hours on Thursday, Dec. 26.

Jefferson County offices will be closed Tuesday, Dec. 24, and Wednesday, Dec. 25 for Christmas, re-opening Tuesday, Dec. 26.

The county will have no trash drop offs on Christmas Day, and Dupont will be delayed to Dec. 26, Rykers Ridge to Dec. 27 and Canaan and Brooksbury on Saturday, Dec. 28.

The town of Hanover offices will be closed Tuesday, Dec. 24, and Wednesday, Dec. 26, for Christmas.

### CHARLIE'S BEAT

## Thomas Family Winery hosting Christmas music event

Today’s word of the day is “impresario.” It comes from the Italian word *impresario*, which means undertaking. So, an impresario is “a person who organizes and often finances concerts, plays, or operas.” Madison is fortunate to have a wealth of impresario-minded people. Just look at the many bar owners who “undertake” music at their venues every single weekend. Oh, and let’s not forget our concert and festival promoters!

But this week we are calling out two impresarios in particular: Steve Thomas of Thomas Family Winery, someone who has been hosting live music at his venue for 30 years now. And Jed Skillman, a relative newcomer to the music promoter game, but no less enthusiastic.

“Thomas Family Winery is one of my favorite spots in town,” relates Jed. “My wife Karen and I are there just about every weekend, it feels like. So as the holiday season was approaching I started talking to Steve about maybe some kind of Christmas show or concert.

“We were kicking around some ideas but nothing was coming into focus, but then out of the blue Tim Brickley contacts Steve and says he wants to come and do a December show in Madison. Well, that was the anchor we needed, so I got busy putting the whole package together.

“We ended up with a Friday date, which is unusual for Steve, he’s usually a Saturday music guy. So Friday the 20th, starting at 6 p.m. with Stan Attenberger. Stan’s Christmas repertoire is kinda legendary around town, he has the perfect voice for some of the classic holiday songs.

“Next up we booked Brook Reindollar and Steve Pulias. They add that sort of jazzy element to the show, think Charlie Brown Christmas, stuff in that vein. It will be mellow and nostalgic. And then coming on about 8 p.m. we have Tim Brickley and Friends. Tim is a consummate pro musician out of Indy, but Madison is one of his favorite places to play. We’re not entirely sure who else he will round up to play with him, and that’s part of the excitement.

“I had a lot of fun working with Steve laying out the show. We had some setbacks getting it all lined up, but Steve is a cool hand and in the end everything fell into place. Small venue live shows are just the best, in my opinion. And when you have a talent line up like we do for this show, it’s sure to be entertaining.

SEE **WINERY/PAGE A6**



# Dust collector fire quickly extinguished at U.S. Premier Tube Mills

**MARBLE HILL FIRE**  
One week ago on Thursday, Dec. 12, at approximately 11:22 a.m., Hanover and Kent fire departments were paged to a report of a chemical fire at the North American Metallurgic Building 2, 9727 Barker Drive, located on the old Marble Hill Power Plant site.  
Fire units responded within a minute of dispatch. Once en route, Jefferson County 911 dispatchers informed those responding that the fire was inside of a material hopper and that the manager stated that propane tanks were approximately 300 yards from the blaze.  
Hanover Fire Chief Ron Kroger requested that New Washington Fire Department respond with a tanker to assist.  
First arriving fire units reported there was heavy black smoke coming from the building, but that all employees had been

SEE **FIRE/PAGE A6**

## NEWS OF RECORD

**JEFFERSON COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE CENTER Lodgings**  
**December 16, 2024**  
Cortino M. Allen, 48, Hanover, on a bench warrant (battery and unauthorized use of motor vehicle). Bond \$2,500 cash.  
Jade Autumn Cardwell, 32, Hanover, on a Jefferson County warrant for Failure to Appear (visiting a common nuisance). Bond \$1,000 cash.  
December 17, 2024  
Jerry Lynn Griffin, 53, Madison, for Neglect of a Dependent, a Level 6 felony. No bond.

Heidi Jo Higgins, 47, Lexington, Indiana, for Invasion of Privacy, a Class A misdemeanor. No bond.  
Marshall Reed Humes, 27, Madison, on a warrant for Failure to Appear. Bond \$1,000 cash.  
Joshua C. Marksberry, 40, for Domestic battery, a Level 6 felony. No bond.  
Mackenzie G. Moran, 26, Madison, to serve 165 days jail, consecutive, on a court-ordered sentencing. No bond.  
Donald Isaac Romans, 63, Milton, Kentucky, for Operating a Vehicle with a BAC of .15, as Level 6 felony. Bond \$1,000 cash.

## OBITUARIES

### Constance Finney Rhoten

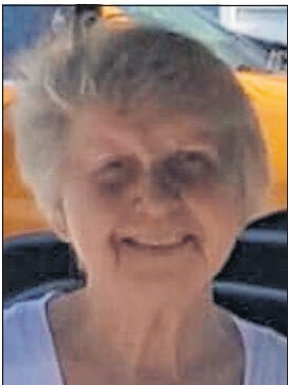
Constance Finney Rhoten, 91, of Lexington, KY, passed away on Dec. 11, 2024. She was born April 22, 1933, in Ripley, OH, to Charles and Marjorie (nee Work) Finney. A dedicated learner, she graduated as valedictorian of Ripley-Union High School Class of 1951. She married Charles William Rhoten on May 23, 1953, and enjoyed 68 years of marriage until his passing in 2021. Initially they made their home in Cynthiana, KY, before a transfer took them to Lexington in 1961. Connie's focus in life was her family as a devoted wife and a mother who dedicated herself to raising their three children, Becky, Drew, and Annie. She was also a loving grandmother who was delighted by and enjoyed her six grandchildren. Connie enthusiastically embraced her Catholic faith and was truly an example of a servant leader. In Lexington, she served as the Director of Religious Education at Christ the King Catholic Church, and later held this same position at St. Peter Catholic Church. She also worked for Catholic Charities for the Diocese of Lexington. After Charlie retired in 1990, they moved to Madison, IN, embarking on a new chapter in their life. Purchasing the local Mayflower agency, Madison Transfer and Storage, Connie helped Charlie with the business, but she also found time to work part-time at Rotary Lift until they both retired for a second time. In Madison, Connie volunteered by supporting her community in teaching English as a second language to Japanese women, serving as a Eucharist minister at the women's prison, and supporting her parish community in many ways. These represent just a fraction of Connie's involvement, as she became a cherished friend to many while positively influencing numerous lives. Connie's influence extended far beyond Madison and Lexington as she and Charlie actively participated in mission trips to various locations including: Papua, New Guinea; San Miguel, Mexico; Tohatchi, New Mexico; and closer to home, several trips to the Mississippi Gulf Coast after Hurricane Katrina to assist in the recovery and relief effort there. They also enjoyed traveling for leisure, which included journeys across the United States and internationally to many foreign countries. In her retirement she spent countless hours gardening, knitting, reading, watching the Cincinnati Reds, and cheering on the Kentucky Wildcats basketball team; but what she loved



most was supporting her grandchildren in their many activities.  
Connie is survived by her loving family. Children: Rebecca Adkins and her husband Eddie Adkins of Ridgeland, MS; Andrew Rhoten and his wife Ann Marie Rhoten of Madison, IN; and Ann Rhoten and her husband Robert White of Lexington, KY; Grandchildren, who affectionally called her Granny: Emma Adkins of Austin, TX; Taylor Rhoten and his wife Luana Rhoten of Emeryville, CA; Grayson Rhoten and his fiancée, Paige Works of Hanover, IN; James White and his wife Abby Teater White of Lancaster, KY, Melissa White-Archer and her husband Allen Archer of Johnson City, TN; Abigail Rhoten White of Chattanooga, TN; Two great grandchildren: Walker and Lyndee White; Sisters-in-law: Patricia Schell of Cincinnati, OH; Janice Klinker and her husband Richard Klinker of Ripley, OH; and Barbara Rhoten of Hamilton, OH; Brother-in-law: Larry Rhoten of North Ft. Myers, FL.  
She is also survived by many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, her sister-in-law Marilyn Rhoten Martin and her husband Nathan Martin, brothers-in-law Roy Rhoten, George Thomas Rhoten, William Koewler and Robert Schell and sisters-in-law Shirley Rhoten Koewler and Shirley Dunn Rhoten.  
A Memorial Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11 a.m. on Jan. 11, 2025, at Prince of Peace Catholic Church, 413 East Second Street, Madison, IN. Interment will follow at the Indiana Veterans Memorial Cemetery, 1415 North Gate Road, Madison, IN.  
The Rosary will be offered at 9:30 a.m., at Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre. Procession will form and leave at 10:30 a.m., from the funeral home to Prince of Peace Catholic Church.  
Our entire lives we watched our parents give in many ways without ever seeking credit or recognition. In lieu of flowers please consider anonymously doing a kind gesture for someone in her honor. Online condolences & remembrances can be left on [www.morgan-nay.com](http://www.morgan-nay.com)  
A special thank you to the compassionate and caring staff of the Willows at Citation, and Bluegrass Care Navigators.

### Jacqueline 'Jackie' Lea Rivers Humphrey

Jacqueline "Jackie" Lea Rivers Humphrey, age 73, of Madison, IN, entered this life on Nov. 21, 1951, in Crawfordsville, IN. Her family settled in Jefferson County in 1966, and she attended Southwestern High School. She was united in marriage to Oliver Cromwell Humphrey, Jr. and this union was blessed with a son Michael. She worked early in life as a car hop for Park-N-Eat Restaurant in Madison, and at Freezer Fresh in Hanover. She later worked for U.S. Shoe Corporation and Grote Industries. She worked 27 years for the Madison State Hospital as a certified medical assistant and attendant until she suffered a stroke and had to retire. Jackie was also a breast cancer survivor as well. She loved to collect angels, loved her five cats, gardening, raising flowers, and watching movies. She was the loving companion of John H. Berry for the past 23 years and devoted mother to Michael. Jackie died on Friday, Dec. 13, 2024, at her home in Madison, IN, after a battle with pancreatic cancer.  
Jacqueline will be missed by her loving son, Michael Humphrey and his wife, Melissa of Madison, IN; her



companion of 23 years, John H. Berry of Madison, IN; her sister, Gwendolyn Henderson of Madison, IN; her nieces and her nephew, Chrissy, Sarah, and Scott; several cousins, and other relatives.  
She was preceded in death by her father, Orris Wayne "Pete" Rivers; her mother, Frances Elizabeth Caldwell Rivers, and her sister, Rhonda Freese.  
Friends may visit Saturday from 1 — 3 p.m., at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN.  
Memorial contributions may be made to Pancreatic Cancer Research or Jefferson County Animal Shelter. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover. Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials, can be left at [www.morgan-nay.com](http://www.morgan-nay.com).

### Betty Ruth Hannah Rector


Betty Ruth Hannah Rector, age 90, of Madison, IN, formerly of Dupont, entered this life on Feb. 27, 1934, in Maryville, TN. She was the loving daughter of the late Ben and Mae C. Baumgardner Hannah. Betty died on Sunday, Dec. 15, 2024, at 1:38 a.m., at the Swiss Villa Nursing & Rehab Center in Vevay, IN.  
Betty will be missed by her loving sons, Douglas Morrison (widower of Diana) of Madison, IN, Stuart Morrison and his wife, Libby of Lexington, IN; her loving daughters, Regina Morrison Newman and her husband Robert of Memphis, TN, Lynda Morrison White (widow of Steve) of Dupont, IN; her brother, Ben Hannah and his wife Brenda of Madison, IN; her sister, Joyce Fields (widow of Aubrey) of Maryville, TN; her grandchildren, Daniel, Jack (Danielle), Sam, Patric (Jessica), and Zachary (Alyssa); her great grandchildren, Collynns Marie, Asher Alan, Taytum Marshall, and Kasey; her step-sons, Michael

Rector and his wife Annika of Charlestown, IN, Dana Rector and his wife Holly of Atlanta, GA; four step grandchildren; several nieces, nephews, and other relatives. She was preceded in death by her father, Ben Hannah, her mother, Mae C. Baumgardner Hannah, and her husband, William Rector, died Aug. 31, 1997.  
Memorial services will be conducted on Saturday, Dec. 28, 2024, at 12 p.m. at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN. Interment will follow in the Dupont Cemetery in Dupont, IN.  
Friends may visit Saturday, Dec. 28, 2024, from 10 a.m., until the time of service at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN.  
Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover. Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials, can be left at [www.morgan-nay.com](http://www.morgan-nay.com).

**BIRTHDAYS**  
Editor's Note: Got a birthday or anniversary coming up? Send name, date and number of years (optional) to [zelda@madisoncourier.com](mailto:zelda@madisoncourier.com) or call 812-265-3641. Please leave your name and phone number in case we have followup questions.  
**December 20**  
Matt Brawner  
**December 22**  
Jeff Ayler  
**December 24**  
Luanne McCammon  
**December 26**  
Roger Fuhrman  
**December 27**  
Rusty Bladen  
Terry King  
**December 28**  
Betsey Vonderheide  
**December 29**  
Tanya Roberts Hess

**WEATHER**  
**Sunrise:** 7:54 a.m.  
**Sunset:** 5:54 p.m.  
**Temperature:** High 41, Low 31, Mean 36.0, Deficit 3.1  
**Precipitation since last published:** 1.32  
**Precipitation, December 2024:** 2.51  
**Precipitation, 2024:** 42.65  
**Barometer:** 30.18, Rising  
**River Level at Clifty Creek:** 429.05, Rising  
**Forecast:** Saturday: Partly cloudy High 35/Low 20; Sunday: Mostly sunny High 34/Low 24; Monday: Cloudy High 47/Low 38; Tuesday (Christmas Eve): Showers High 45/Low 41; Wednesday (Christmas Day): Showers High 50/Low 45.

**LOTTERY**  
**INDIANA**  
**Hoosier Lotto:** 15-24-26-30-35-40 (12/18). Next Estimated Jackpot: \$32.9 million. Next Drawing (12/21).  
**Cash Five:** 21-22-32-41-42 (12/18)  
**Cash 4 Life:** 2-24-54-55-56 CB: 3 (12/18)  
**KENTUCKY**  
**Cash Ball:** 6-19-23-31 CB 7 (12/18)  
**Lucky For Life:** 19-26-30-31-41 LB: 16 (12/18)  
**MEGAMILLIONS:** 56-66-67-68-69 MB: 18, MP 4 (12/17). Next Jackpot: \$825 million. Next Drawing (12/20)  
**POWERBALL:** 6-15-18-33-49 PB: 7, PP 2 (12/18). Next Estimated Jackpot: \$88 million. Next Drawing (12/21)  
**POWERBALL DOUBLE PLAY:** 41-45-52-56-67 PB: 6 (12/18). Next Estimated Jackpot: Up to \$10 million. Next Drawing (12/21)



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**CLASSIFIED DEADLINES**  
2:30 p.m. Friday for Tuesday issue  
Noon Monday for Thursday issue  
Noon Thursday for Saturday issue

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## DEATH NOTICES

**Ella Jean Evans Hassfurder, 98**, of Madison, IN, died Wednesday, Dec. 18, 2024, at theNorton King's Daughters' Health in Madison. Arrangements will be announced by Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres in Madison, [www.morgan-nay.com](http://www.morgan-nay.com).  
**James Alan Hehe, 52**, of Vevay, IN, died Saturday, Dec. 14, 2024, at his residence. Funeral service will be at 11 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 21, at Haskell & Morrison Funeral Home in Vevay, with interment to follow in the Vevay Cemetery there, [www.haskelland-morrison.com](http://www.haskelland-morrison.com).  
**Christopher "Chris" Dale Lester, 43**, of

Madison, IN, died Wednesday, Dec. 18, 2024, at Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis. Arrangements will be announced by Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres in Madison, [www.morgan-nay.com](http://www.morgan-nay.com).  
**Betty Jane Burkhardt Lichlyter, 89**, of Milton, KY, died Tuesday, Dec. 17, 2024, in La Grange, KY. Funeral service will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 21, at Mt. Byrd Christian Church in Milton, with interment in the Moffett Cemetery in Milton. Arrangements by Tandy-Eckler-Riley Funeral Home in Carrollton, KY, [www.tandyeckler-rileyfuneral-home.com](http://www.tandyeckler-rileyfuneral-home.com).

## Marilyn Lois Dunn

Marilyn Lois Dunn, age 75, of Bedford, KY, passed away on Monday, Dec. 16, 2024, at her residence. Born May 13, 1949, in Pottsville, PA, she was the daughter of Jack and Lois (Alcott) Maurer.  
Mrs. Dunn was a graduate of Minersville High School in Minersville, PA, and retired as a retail manager/buyer for the J.C. Penney Company where she worked for 24 years.  
Her surviving family includes her husband, Kenneth C. Dunn, Sr., to whom she was married on Sept. 22, 1974, in

Dover, DE; two sons and daughters-in-law: John and Elsie Dunn of Skipperville, AL, and Jason and Veronica Dunn of Palmetto, FL; one brother and sister-in-law, Douglas and Denise Mauer of Minersville; five grandchildren and three great grandchildren.  
She was preceded in death by her parents.  
At the request of the family, no services will be held.  
Ransdell Funeral Home, Bedford, is in charge of the arrangements. Online condolences may be made at [ransdellfuneral.com](http://ransdellfuneral.com).



**OBITUARIES**

**Mildred Elizabeth  
Farrell Callahan**

Mildred Elizabeth Farrell Callahan, age 82, of Vevay, IN, entered this life on Sept. 13, 1942, in Madison, IN. She was the loving daughter of the late Ernest and Ruth Harris Farrell. She was raised in Madison, and attended school there. On April 9, 1958, she was united in marriage to James Wesley Steven Callahan in Carrollton, KY. This happy union of 66 years was blessed with a daughter, Shannon and sons, Wesley, Brian, and Wade. She worked for a short time for Conn Organ in Madison, and was a devoted wife, mom, and homemaker. She was a faithful member of the Madison Assembly of God Church since 1960. She enjoyed gardening, canning, and her cat, Maddie. She was anxiously awaiting the birth of her fourth great grandchild. Mildred died on Friday, Dec. 13, 2024, at 4:57 p.m., at the Thornton Terrace Health Campus in Hanover, IN.

Mildred will be missed by her loving husband of 66 years, James Wesley Steven Callahan of Vevay, IN; her loving daughter, Shannon Long and her husband, Randy of Lexington, IN; her sons, Wesley Callahan of Parrish, Florida, Brian Callahan and his wife, Shirley of Madison, IN, Wade Callahan of Madison, IN; her grandchildren, Trent Callahan, Allison Callahan, Amanda Manuel, Leslie Wiseman, Karli Schram, Kyle Callahan, and Cole Callahan; her great grandchildren, Maverick Wiseman, Elijah Wiseman, and Leah Schram; her sister, Norma Batts and her



husband, Dewayne of Madison, IN; her brothers, Daniel Farrell of Madison, IN, Douglas Farrell of Madison, IN; her sister in law, Elaine Andrew of Madison, IN; several nieces, nephews, and other relatives.

She was preceded in death by her father, Ernest Farrell, her mother, Ruth Harris Farrell, her sisters, Alleyenne Powell, Marcella Barnett, Linda Skirvin, and Ruth Ann Harmon, and her brother, Marion “Bill” Wilson.

Funeral services will be conducted Friday, Dec. 20, 2024, at 11 a.m., by Pastor Jason Dailey at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN. Interment will follow in the Indiana Veterans Memorial Cemetery, 1415 North Gate Road in Madison, IN.

Friends may visit Thursday from 4 — 6 p.m., and Friday from 10 a.m., until the time of service at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN.

Memorial contributions may be made to Love A Child. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover. Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials, can be left at [www.morgan-nay.com](http://www.morgan-nay.com).

**Joseph Mark Seidl**

Joseph Mark Seidl, age 70, of Versailles, Indiana, formerly of Madison, entered this life on Aug. 20, 1954 in Elkhart, IN. He was the loving son of the late Joseph Leo and Margaret Rosamond Lowry Seidl. He was raised in Elkhart and schooled there receiving his GED later in life. Joe was raised in the Catholic faith. He was inducted into the United States Army and later discharged. He resided the past 40 years in Madison. On July 15, 1986, he was united in marriage to Kimberly D. Perry, and this union was blessed with two daughters, Laken and Lacey. He had worked as a farm laborer, Madison Precision, and at Scott’s Lawn Care. He enjoyed fishing, watching old westerns, watching Gunsmoke, and being with his grandchildren. He liked to go to Clifty State Park and catching raccoons. Joe died on Saturday, Dec. 14, 2024, at 6:57 p.m., at the Silver Memories Nursing Home in Versailles, IN.

Joe will be missed by his loving daughters, Laken Seidl and her companion, James Beeler of Bedford, KY, Lacy Seidl Bennett and her husband, Ron, Jr. of Bedford, KY; his grandchildren, Joseph Tyler Seidl, Steven Lee Cunningham, Jr., Eli Jaxson Seidl, Ryleigh Dawn Bennett, and Ava Grace Bennett; his



sister, Patricia Krem Ellis of Holland, OH; his biological nephew, Dylan P. Seidl; several nieces, nephews, and other relatives. He was preceded in death by his father, Joseph Leo Seidl, his mother, Margaret Rosamond Lowry Seidl, his wife, Kimberly D. Perry Seidl, died April 28, 2011, his son in law, Steven Cunningham, Sr., his brothers, Jeffrey Scott Seidl, and Dennis Seidl, his biological nephew, Larry Krem.

Graveside services will be conducted Monday, Dec. 23, 2024, at 11 a.m., at the Springdale Cemetery, 600 West Fifth Street in downtown Madison, IN.

Memorial contributions may be made to Joseph Mark Seidl Remembrance Fund. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover. Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials, can be left at [www.morgan-nay.com](http://www.morgan-nay.com).

**Karen Joan Campbell Combs**

Karen Joan Campbell Combs, age 78, of Madison, IN, entered this life on Aug. 23, 1946, in Louisville, KY. She was the loving daughter of the late John Cambridge and Mary Julia Goins Campbell. She married Raymond Edward Combs on Jan. 15, 1965, in Wise, VA. This union of 26 years was blessed with four sons and three daughters. She was a homemaker and farmer’s wife. She stayed busy working at home and raising her family. She later worked as a gardener for Historic Madison working at the Lanier Home. She had attended Scottsburg Church of Christ and Austin Church of Christ early in life and accepted Jesus Christ as her personal Lord and Savior. She enjoyed sewing, cross stitch, embroidery, crocheting, and crossword puzzles. Karen died on Saturday, Dec. 14, 2024, at 5:47 p.m. at her home in Madison, IN.

Karen will be missed by her sons, Benjamin E. Combs and his wife Julie of Madison, IN, Daniel P. Combs and his wife, Kayla of Manville, IN; her daughters, Patty Lee and her husband Phillip of Madison, IN, Sharon Rose Huttshell and her husband Keith of Paynesville, IN, Sarah Baez and her husband Will of North Carolina; her brothers, Larry Campbell of Lexington, KY, Gary Campbell of



Madison, IN; her sister Jenita Long of Madison, IN; her grandchildren, Kamra, Dakota, Maggie, Zane, Morgan, Jordan, Adam, Logan, Clara, Alana, Harlan, Vanessa, Eliana, and Evelyn; her great grandchildren, Jameson, Jasper, and Allis; several nieces, nephews, and other relatives. She was preceded in death by her father, John Cambridge Campbell, her mother, Mary Julie Goins, her sister, Carol Whittaker and Velma Moody, her sons, Adam Oscar Combs and Raymond “Little Roy” Combs, II, her husband, Raymond Edward Combs, Sr., her brother, Alan Campbell.

Karen chose cremation with a small family celebration at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be made to Historic Madison Inc. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover. Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials, can be left at [www.morgan-nay.com](http://www.morgan-nay.com).

**Terry Wayne Reeves**

Terry Wayne Reeves, age 65, of Madison, IN, entered this life on July 18, 1959, in Madison, IN. He was the loving son of the late Donley Dean and Virginia “Jenny” Dee Graves Reeves. He was a 1977 graduate of Switzerland County High School where he ran track and played basketball. He resided most of his life in Jefferson County and was united in marriage on June 14, 1986, to Janet L. Claghorn at Wirt Baptist Church. This happy union of 38 years was blessed with a son, Brandon, and a daughter, Kelsey. He worked early in life for Randall Textron in Vevay in production, later working maintenance at Presidential Estates. He then spent 10 years at Contour Technologies on the paint and buffer line. He retired after 26 years of service with Arvin Sango in quality control. He attended Kent Christian Church in Kent, IN, had been a Boy Scout and participated in the Muzzle Loader Association. An avid collector of coins and currency, Terry enjoyed building model cars, collecting marbles, hunting, fishing, and gardening. Terry died on Monday, Dec. 16, 2024, at 12:48 pm at the Norton King’s Daughters’ Hospital in Madison, IN.

Terry will be missed by his loving his wife of 38 years, Janet L. Claghorn Reeves of Madison, IN; his son, Brandon Reeves of Madison, IN; his daughter, Kelsey Reeves Kendall and her husband, Christopher of Milton, KY; his granddaughter, Zoey Jane Kendall; his brother, Jeff Reeves (Bonnie) of Airville, PA; his sister, LaDonna “L.J.” Webber (James) of



Hanover, IN; his sisters in law, Ginny Brooks (John) of North Vernon, IN, Nettie Roark of North Vernon, IN, Charlotte Meranda and her husband, Grant of Hayden, IN; his brothers in law, C.P. Roark and his wife, Sherrie of North Vernon, IN, Allen Roark (Kim) of North Vernon, IN; several nieces, nephews, and other relatives. He was preceded in death by his father, Donley Dean Reeves, his mother, Virginia “Jenny” Dee Graves Reeves, his brother, Michael Dean Reeves, his aunt, Sudonna Gross, his father in law and his mother in law, Bernard Wayne Claghorn and Dorothea Dolby Lovegrove.

Funeral services will be conducted Friday, Dec. 20, 2024, at 6 pm, by Bro. Brian Schulz at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN.

Friends may visit Friday from 4 — 6 p.m. at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN.

Memorial contributions may be made to his granddaughter’s scholarship fund. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover. Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials, can be left at [www.morgan-nay.com](http://www.morgan-nay.com).

**Bernard Patrick Morley**

Bernard Patrick Morley, 76, of North Vernon, passed away at 6:25 p.m., on Sunday, Dec. 15, 2024, at The Willows in Greensburg.

There will be a Mass of Christian Burial on Saturday, Dec. 21, 2024, at 10 a.m., at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church at Four Corners. Rev. Jerry Byrd will officiate. Burial will be in the St. Joseph’s Cemetery. Visitation will be held from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m., on Saturday, Dec. 21, 2024, at Sawyer-Pickett Funeral and Cremation Service.

Born Jan. 30, 1948, in Indianapolis, Patrick was the loving son of the late Bernard Patrick and Ida Marie (Beck) Morley. He was united in marriage to Mary Kay Riley on Oct. 20, 1981. She survives.

Patrick served his country proudly from Feb. 13, 1967 to Feb. 9, 1971, in the United States Air Force rising to the rank of SSGT, during this time he had worked in the Air Force Orientation Group. He was a member of St. Mary’s Catholic Church. He was the general manager while working at the Plain Dealer and Sun where he oversaw the commercial printing division. Patrick’s artistic talent was seen not only in Jennings County but as far away as Boston on items printed by his division. Each year he volunteered his efforts designing the Jennings County Community Foundation’s Gala artwork. Other organizations and businesses also benefitted from his talents. On occasion he would donate pieces of his artwork to local groups such as Ducks Unlimited for fundraisers, the National Wildlife Federation, the Department of Natural Resources and the Fish and Wildlife Division. One of his most famous works hung in the Commonwealth of Virginia’s Fish and Wildlife Division offices. His artwork was always the most sought-after auction item. Patrick was a manager who pushed his employees to strive for excellence while at the same time teaching them his own brand of humor. His compassion toward his employees and their families will stay with them forever. Patrick is a nationally recognized wildlife artist, having his work displayed at such illustrious locales as the Pacific Design Center, the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry,



the Smithsonian and the Beverly Hills Art League. Over the years he has been requested to submit pieces that supported the Langley Air Force Base Chief of Staff visual aids during morning briefings for the President. While at Langley Air Force Base Patrick was a command illustrator. His artwork has been displayed at the Pentagon, Canadian Expo and he also has credits for a project he competed with at the Cannes Film Festival entitled “History of Flight.” His diversity as an artist has allowed him to do conceptual drawings of the F-15 fighter aircraft during the experimental stage. When the United States was attacked on Sept. 11, 2001, Patrick put his brush to a canvas and created a painting that became internationally recognized. His work of an American Eagle with the Twin Towers and Pentagon ablaze reflected in its eyes became a symbol of the heartbreaking loss of US lives and of the true American spirit. He also donated all the proceeds from the sale of the artwork to either the military or to education.

In addition to his wife, Mary Kay Morley of North Vernon, He will be missed by his sons, Joseph (Lynn) Morley of Sun Prairie, WI, Tim (Ani) Morley of Commiskey, Daniel (Casey) Morley of Moffat, CO, Bernard Patrick Morley of Indianapolis; brother, Michael (Sharon) Morley of Venice, FL; sisters, Kathleen (Bruce) Bade, and Noreen Faulkenberg of Scottsburg; grandchildren, Soleil Rain Decker-Morley, Emmalyn and Deegan Morley.

Patrick was preceded in death by his parents, Bernard and Ida Morley.

Memorials may be made through the funeral home to St. Mary’s School or Boys Town.

Friends and family are invited to light a candle or leave a message of condolence in Patrick’s memory at [www.sawyer-funeralservice.com](http://www.sawyer-funeralservice.com).

**Marcia Lynn Andrew Morgan**

Marcia Lynn Andrew Morgan, age 73, of Madison, IN, entered this life on Dec. 13, 1951, in Madison, IN. She was the loving daughter of the late, Randall T., Sr. and Bonita M. “Bonnie” Roseberry Andrew. Marcia died on Tuesday, Dec. 17, 2024, at 2:40 a.m. at the Water’s of Clifty Falls in Madison, IN.

Marcia will be missed by her loving husband, Ronald Kenneth Morgan of Madison, IN; her loving son, Corey Morgan of Madison, IN; her loving daughter, Morgan Langley and her husband, Josh of Winter Garden, FL; her grandchildren, Skyla, Jady, and Lyla; her sister, Regina “Sis” Harmon of Milton, KY; several nieces, nephews, and other relatives.

She was preceded in death by her father, Randall T. Andrew, Sr., her mother, Bonita M.

“Bonnie” Roseberry Andrew, her brother, Randall T. “Randy” Andrew, Jr., her daughter, Aimee Jo Ford Perry.

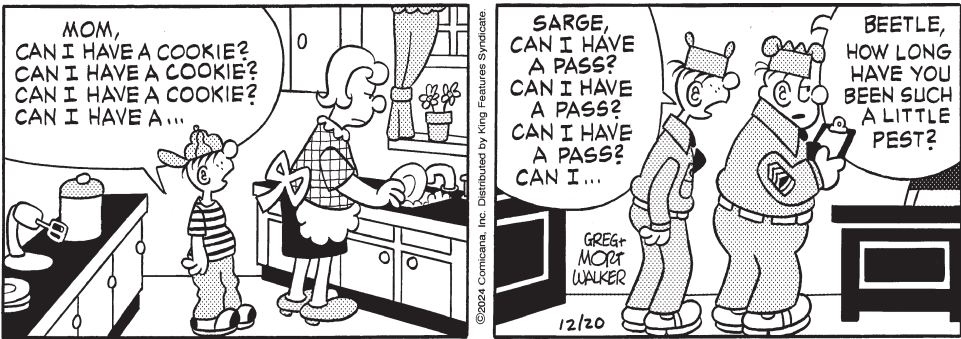
Memorial services will be conducted on Sunday, Dec. 22, 2024, at 1 p.m., by at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN. Interment will be in the Moffett Cemetery in Milton, KY.

Friends may visit from 11 a.m. until the time of service at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Marcia Lynn Morgan Remembrance Fund. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre of Madison, and Hanover. Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials, can be left at [www.morgan-nay.com](http://www.morgan-nay.com).



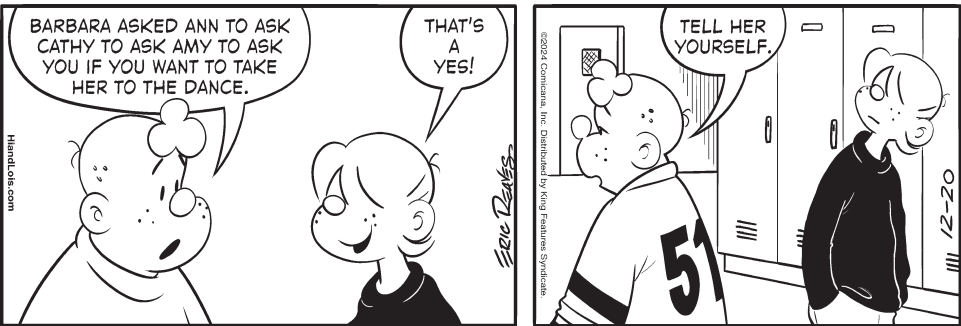
## BEETLE BAILEY



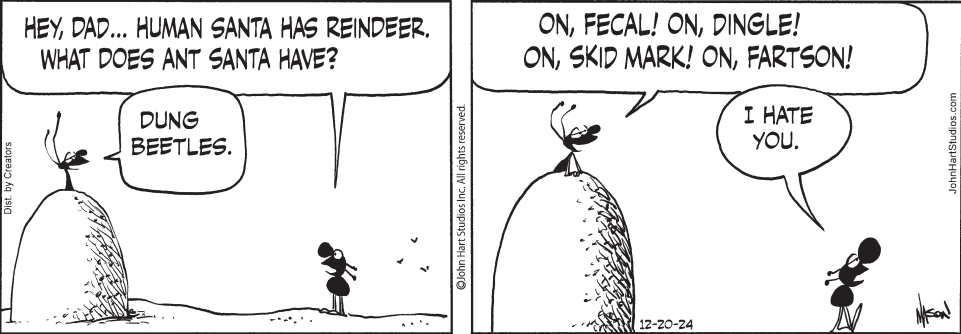
## BLONDIE



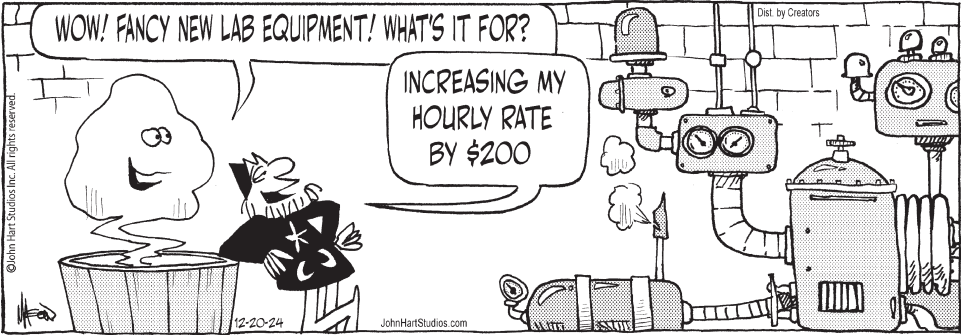
## HI & LOIS



**BC**



## WIZARD OF ID



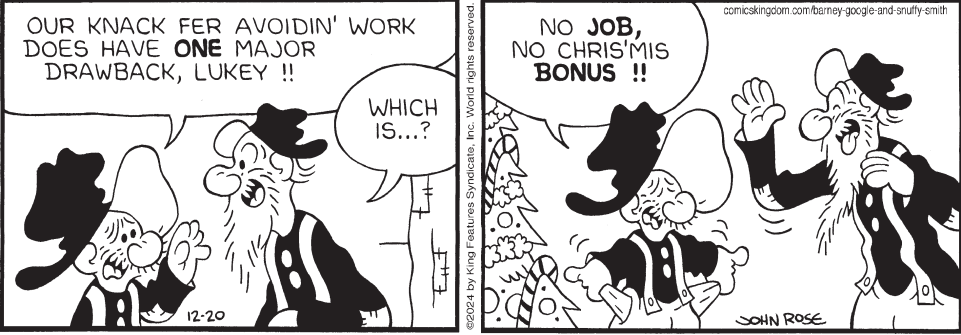
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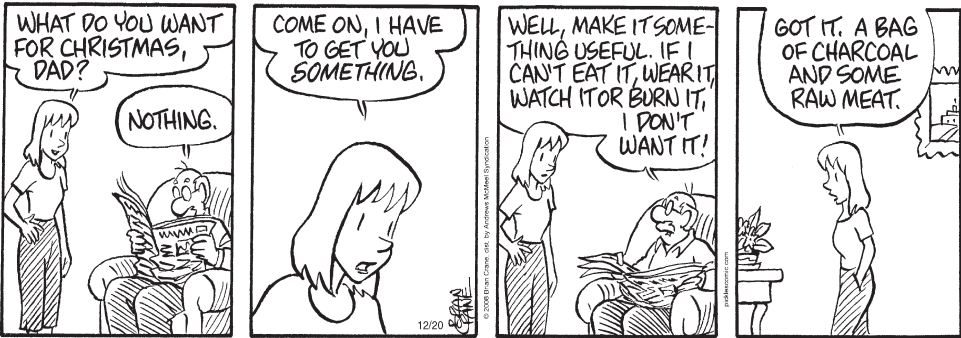
# GARFIELD



## BARNEY GOOGLE AND SNUFFY SMITH



## PICKLES

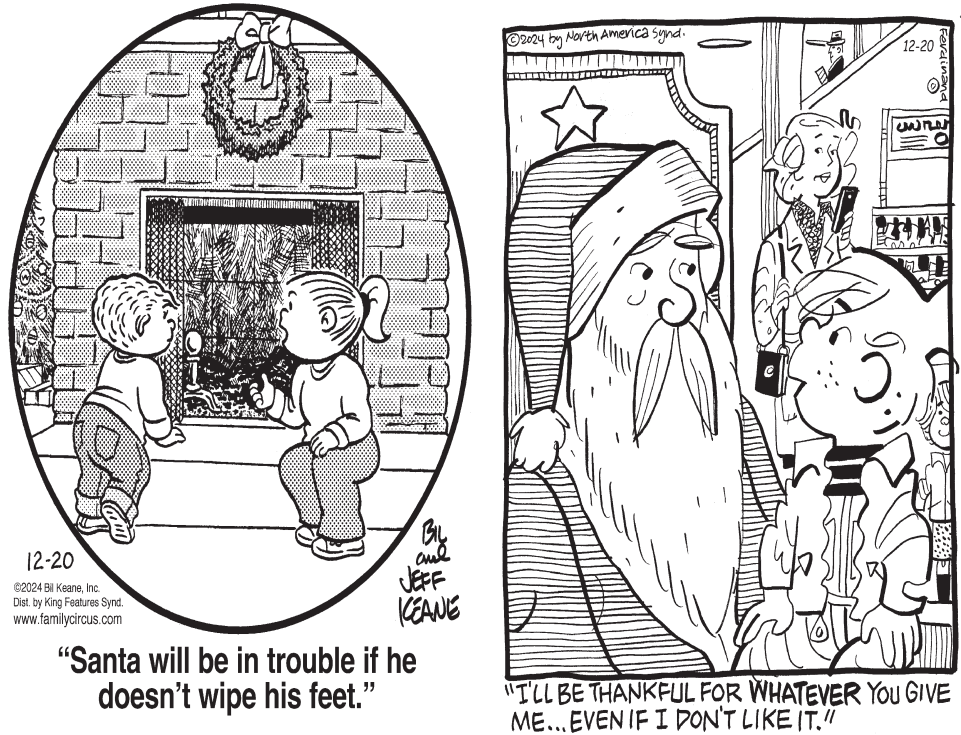


## FAMILY CIRCUS

## THE FAMILY CIRCUS

**By Bil Keane**

## DENNIS THE MENACE



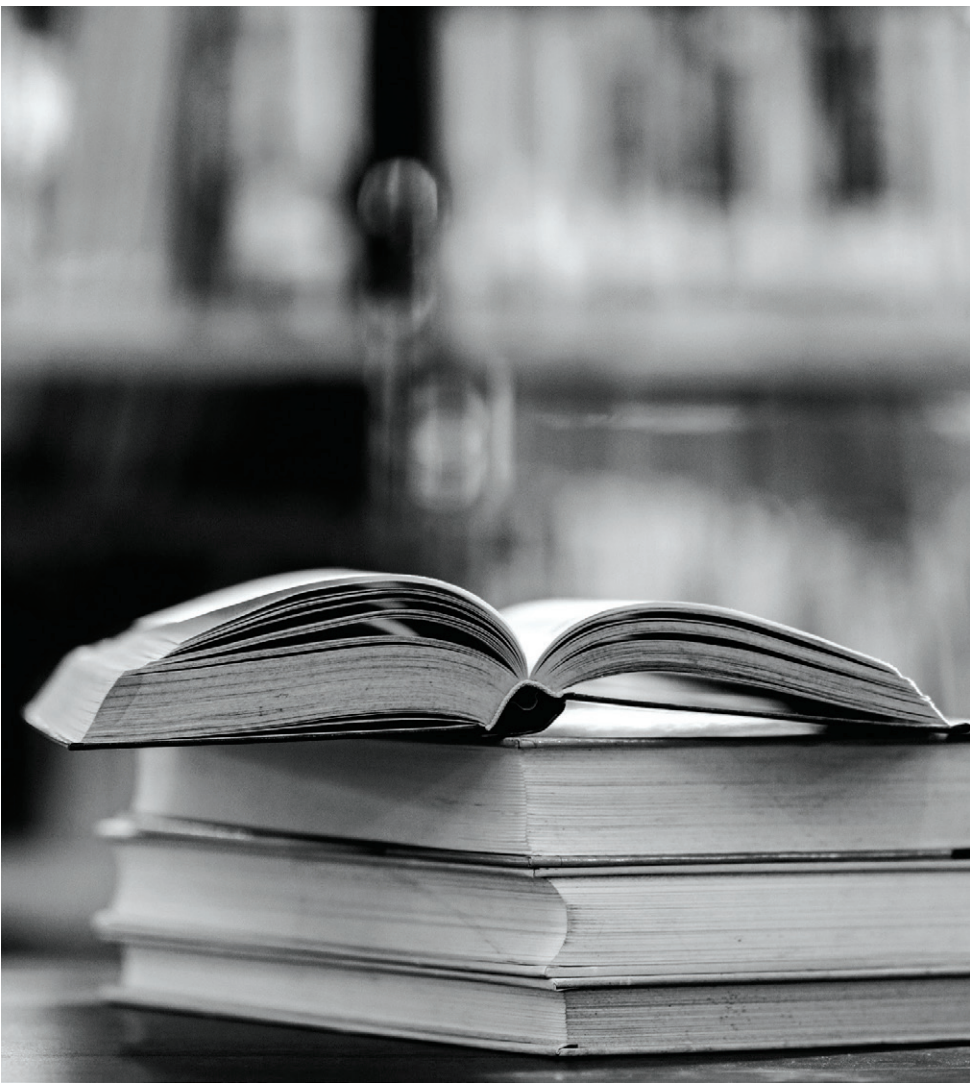
## BABY BLUES



# CURTIS



## ZITS



## TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Friday, Dec. 20,  
the 355th day of 2024. There  
are 11 days left in the year.

### Today in history:

On Dec. 20, 1803, the Louisiana Purchase was completed as ownership of the territory was formally transferred from France to the United States.

### Also on this date:

**In 1946**, the classic holiday film "It's a Wonderful Life" premiered at the Globe Theater in New York City.

**In 1986**, three Black men were attacked by a group of white youths

in the Howard Beach neighborhood of Queens, New York, resulting in the death of one of the men, Michael Griffith.

**In 1987**, more than 4,300 people were killed when the Doña Paz, a Philippine passenger ship, collided with the tanker Vector off Mindoro island.

**In 1989**, the United States launched Operation Just Cause, sending troops into Panama to topple the government of Gen. Manuel Noriega.

**In 2019,** the United

States Space Force was established when President Donald Trump signed the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020.

**Today's Birthdays:** Rock drummer Peter Dinklage is 79. Producer Dick Wolf ("Law & Order") is 78. Musician Alan Parsons is 76. Author Sandra Cisneros is 70. Actor Michael Badalucco is 70. Rock singer Chris Robinson (The Black Crowes) is 58. Filmmaker Todd Phillips is 54. Actor Jonah Hill is 41. Soccer player Kylian Mbappé is 26.



## BEETLE BAILEY



## BLONDIE



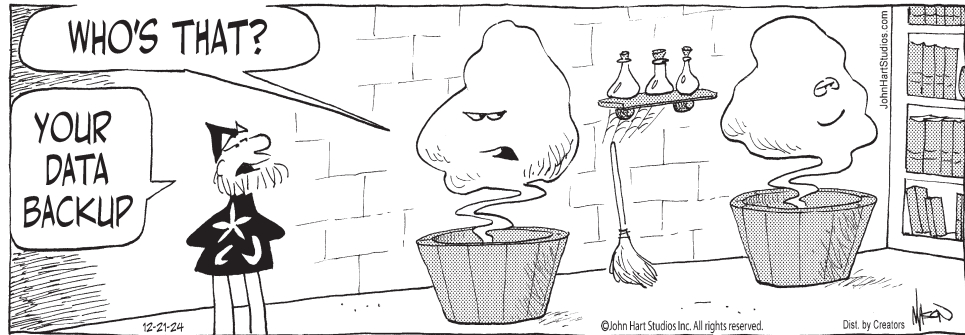
## HI & LOIS



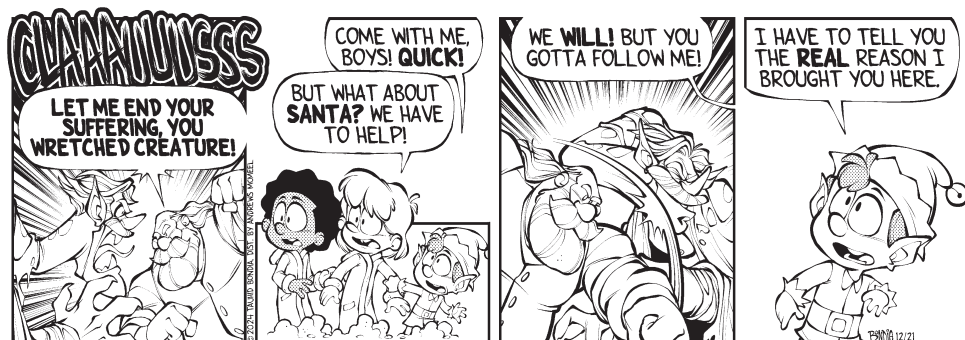
## BC



## WIZARD OF ID



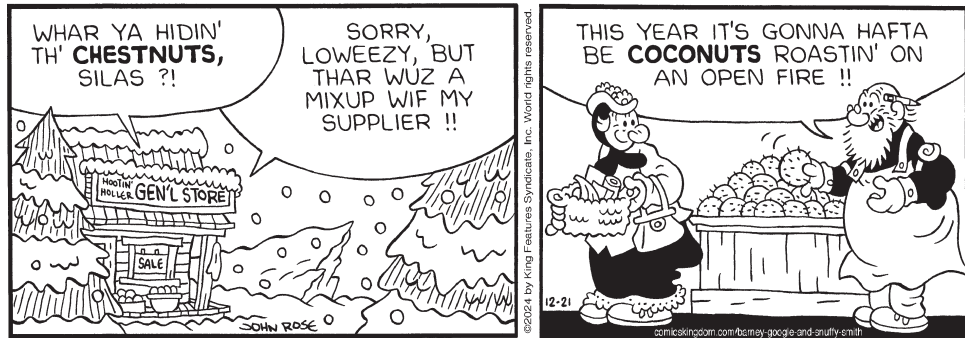
## CRABGRASS



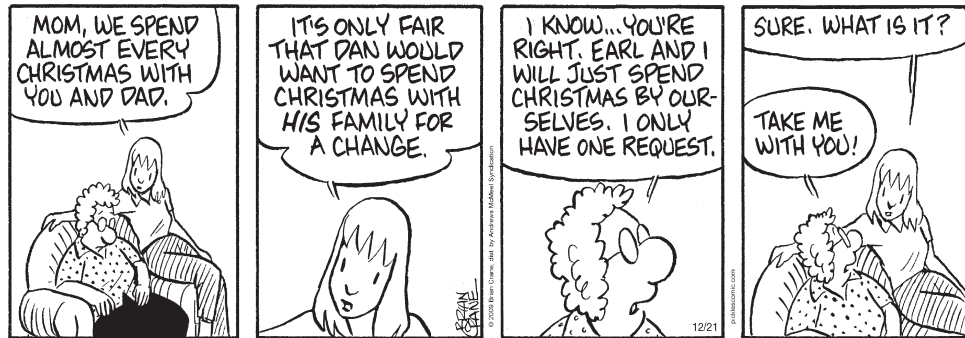
# GARFIELD



## BARNEY GOOGLE AND SNUFFY SMITH



## PICKLES

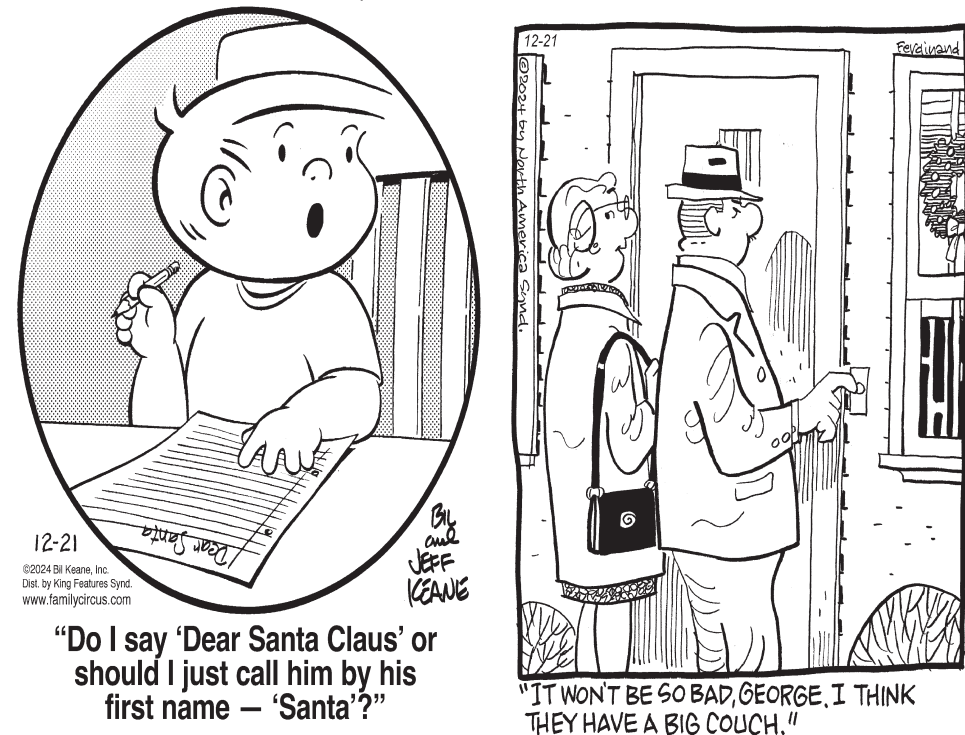


## FAMILY CIRCUS

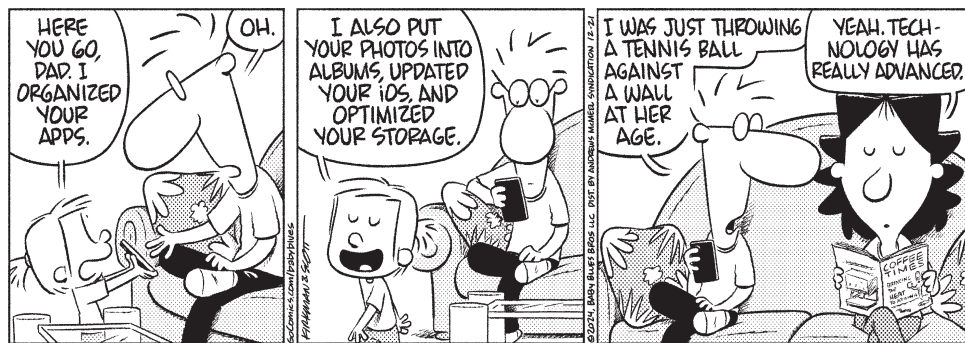
## THE FAMILY CIRCUS

**By Bil Keane**

## DENNIS THE MENACE



## BABY BLUES



**CURTIS**



**ZITS**



## TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Saturday, Dec. 21,  
the 356th day of 2024. There  
are 10 days left in the year.

**Today in history:**  
On Dec. 21, 1988, 270 people were killed when a terrorist bomb exploded aboard a Pan Am Boeing 747 over Lockerbie, Scotland, sending wreckage crashing to the ground.

**Also on this date:**  
**In 1620**, Pilgrims aboard the Mayflower went ashore at present-day Plymouth, Massachusetts, for the first time.

**In 1864**, during the Civil War, Union forces led by Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman concluded their “March to the Sea” when they captured Savannah, Georgia.

**In 1891**, the first basketball game, devised by James Naismith, is believed

to have been played at the International YMCA Training School (now Springfield College) in Springfield, Massachusetts.

**In 1913**, the first newspaper crossword puzzle billed as a “Word-Cross Puzzle,” was published in the New York World.

**In 1976**, the oil tanker Argo Merchant broke apart near Nantucket Island off Massachusetts almost a week after running aground, spilling 7.7 million gallons of oil into the North Atlantic.

**In 1991**, eleven of the 12 former Soviet republics formally proclaimed the birth of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

**In 2020**, President-elect Joe Biden received his first dose of the coronavirus vaccine on live television as

part of a growing effort to convince the American public the inoculations were safe.

**Today's Birthdays:** Actor Jane Fonda is 87. Singer Carla Thomas is 82. Conductor Michael Tilson Thomas is 80. Actor Samuel L. Jackson is 76. Film producer Jeffrey Katzenberg is 74. Tennis Hall of Famer Chris Evert is 70. Actor Jane Kaczmarek is 69. Country musician Lee Roy Parnell is 68. Actor-comedian Ray Romano is 67. Actor Kiefer Sutherland is 58. Actor-filmmaker Julie Delpy is 55. Golf Hall of Famer Karrie Webb is 50. French President Emmanuel Macron is 47. Actor Rutina Wesley is 46. Actor Steven Yeun is 41. Actor-producer-writer Quinta Brunson is 35. Actor Kaitlyn Dever is 28. Actor Madelyn Cline is 27.



# Southwestern pool completion expected next week

**BY BOB DEMAREE**

The wait for completion of the refurbished pool at the Southwestern Aquatic Center could be over by next week.

Southwestern Athletic Director Tom Scroggins provided an update at Monday’s meeting of the Southwestern school board, explaining that representatives of American Leak Detection (ALD), the company that’s refurbishing the pool, told him an inspection with the health department was to be held on Thursday of this week. If that’s successful, heating the pool will begin while other final tasks are completed that includes painting and putting the flooring down.

“They expect the entire project at this point to be done by at the latest Tuesday of next week. Monday is our hope to get our kids in, but that is thinking that everything goes the way it should,” said Scroggins, and if some reason that’s not achieved ALD representative has told him “we’re probably getting in next Friday.”

Refurbishment of the pool is

an approximately \$1 million project of which \$650,000 came from the Bethany Legacy Foundation with the remainder paid by the Southwestern Jefferson County School Corporation.

The pool was originally constructed in 1975 after the school was rebuilt following the April 4, 1974 tornado that destroyed the previous school. With the pool being nearly 50 years old, there were numerous issues with the facility. After completion of the swim season last March, work began to replace the pool with new concrete, electric, plumbing and pump. Completion was anticipated by August, but that didn’t happen and members of the Southwestern and Hanover College swim teams showed up at the November school board meeting to express their displeasure that the pool was not yet finished, hampering their practice and ability to have home meets.

In other business, the board:

- Adopted an additional appropriation of up to \$500,000 to close out the school corpora-

tion’s 2024 budget, along with a transfer of \$250,000 from the Education Fund to the Operations Fund. Laura Boldery, Southwestern’s chief financial officer, said the request is due to unexpected costs in the operations fund budget, citing extra costs in the pool refurbishment, the bus parking lot and electrical work.

“We have the cash available but you can’t spend the cash unless you have the appropriations approved first by DLGF (Department of Local Government Finance) to spend those appropriations,” she said, adding that, “hopefully we don’t need it” but with one more payroll in 2024, she wants to be certain to have adequate funds. “I want to go ahead and jump through all the hoops to get this additional appropriation in case we do need it to close out the year.”

- Awarded a contract of \$21,825 to North Electric Inc. for electrical upgrades in the kitchen at the Southwestern Elementary School. Boldery said there was a major electrical issue in

the elementary in November that was repaired temporarily. The project will involve installing a new transformer to replace one from 1967, and to replace three disconnects. There was also a quote for \$25,207.88 from Miller Electric LLC.

- Approved \$7,426 for a contract with Aspire Industries LLC for the replacement of a sewer trunk in the women’s restroom at Southwestern High School’s Delbert King Gymnasium. Boldery said half of the restroom stalls have been out of service for some time.” She said the repair work will be done over Christmas break because the work requires shutting off water to the entire building. She said it is hoped that the work will be completed prior to the Jefferson County Invitational Tournament, scheduled for Dec. 27-28 at Southwestern. Boldery said the project is a start on what needs to be done in the restrooms. “We know it needs more major work,” she said.
- Approved the purchase of two IC/Collins 139 model buses

costing \$107,924 for a total of \$215,848. Assistant Superintendent Jason Watson said they are activity, special purpose buses that add two vehicles to the fleet, and are not replacements. “We’ve had more than one occasion where all of our activity buses have been out. This will allow us to put less miles on some of those older buses, and balance things out a little bit, plus give us 12 to use.”

- Held the first reading of a new bus use policy for outside agencies that utilize the Southwestern buses for transportation. Watson said the policy statement will provide more structure and consistency that includes bus use fees.
- Approved a contract addendum for Superintendent Jeff Bates with regard to his health insurance in anticipation of his retirement June 30.
- Hired Jeffrey Studds as an Eighth grade English teacher and Natalie Gray as a high school English teacher during a maternity leave beginning Jan. 6 through March 14.

## MJHS representing Indiana with ornaments on National Christmas Tree

**BY BOB DEMAREE**

Ornaments created by 30 Madison Junior High School students are representing Indiana on the National Christmas Tree, highlighted by a tree lighting ceremony televised on CBS at 8 p.m. on Friday.

Eric Phagan, MJHS art teacher and local artist, was contacted last spring by Dr. Rebecca Estes, assistant secretary for educator talent at the Indiana Department of Education, about being Indiana’s representative to make ornaments for this year’s tree.

“I was honored to have our whole class out of the whole state to have 30 kids from Madison Junior High represent something that was viewed by thousands of people,” said Phagan. “To represent not just Madison, but also Madison Junior High School, for the state of Indiana, this is something that is elevating our children on a national level.”

The 30 MJHS participants were 18 seventh and 12 eighth grade students who were asked to create the ornament by responding to the question, “What makes your state beautiful?”

Phagan emphasized making certain no student was doing the same image as another student. “We wanted it to be a wide range of things that would represent our state and our community also.”

Eighth grade (now ninth graders) student participants included Brendan Bentz, Sophia Davis, Ashlyn Dryden, Maddie Guirguis, Jane Jen-



Bob Demaree

ner, Tayleigh Johnson, Ava Overfield, Vinson Phagan, Janelle Scudder, Aubrie Smith, Shelby Speer and Shannelle Suter.

Seventh grade (now eighth graders) student participants included Ava Canida, Eloise Fennig, Jesselynn Goldsmith, Canaan Hornbrook, Lydia Horvath, Harper Martin, Lillie McAlister, Rilynn McFadden, Maddie Palmer, Paizlea Parrott, Kenzie Randall, Tessa Renfrow, Maddax Scholl, Emma Shockley, Maggie Stivers, Teagan Thacker, Allison Torres and Zoey White.

The 102nd tree lighting ceremony was held Thursday, Dec. 5, with President Joe Biden participating along with performances by Adam Blackstone, Stephen Sanchez, James Taylor, Trisha Yearwood and Trombone Shorty.

The National Christmas Tree is located south of the White House on the Ellipse. A collection of 58 trees with student-designed ornaments will represent the United States’ 50 states, territories, and schools managed by the Department of the Interior’s Bureau of Indian Education and the Department of Defense Education Activity. The tradition of the National Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony began Christmas Eve in 1923 with President Calvin Coolidge.

## Cato closing River Pointe store after 34 years

**BY BOB DEMAREE**

Walmart left River Pointe when it opened a supercenter on Ivy Tech Drive in January 1995 and JC Penney closed its Madison location in 2020.

Cato Fashion occupies a 4,950-square-foot space in the shopping center. Jessica Wildeman, Regency Properties senior director of lease administration and marketing, said Cato has been in that space since 1990, the year after River Pointe opened.

There is no certainty on what tenant might fill Cato’s space. “I don’t have any other further details to share with you at this time,” Wildeman said.

River Pointe encompasses a total of 178,534 square feet with the current largest tenant being Kroger at 40,792 square feet, which is in the space that served as Foods Plus when the shopping center opened. Bealls Department Store with 33,170 square feet and Tractor Supply with 32,760 square feet occupy the space that was originally Walmart. Goodwill, with 22,596 square feet, is in the space that once housed JC Penney.

A story in the March 6, 1989, edition of The Madison Courier listed some of the initial tenants including Maurices, Gimme Yogurt, Kirlin’s Hallmark Shop, Payless Shoe Source, Monfried Optical and Sycamore Fashions, along with Little Caesar’s Pizza, a tenant that left for many years before returning to the shopping center in recent years.

## WINERY

FROM PAGE A1

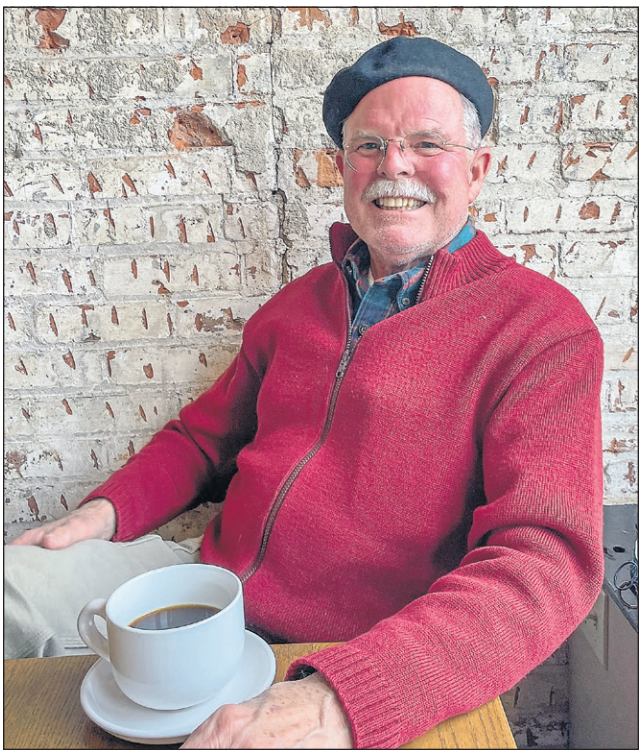
“Oh, I should mention, the show is free but we will be asking for donations. All the proceeds will go to our local Salvation Army and all the good work they do around this time of year. Not just meals or a place out of the cold, but laundry and even emergency dental care. Hopefully we can collect some funds and do some good for this worthy cause.”

“What else? I should mention our sponsors for the show, First Financial Bank, and the Ohio Valley Celtic Society. Patty Cooper-Wells pitched in and did the artwork for our event poster, it’s got a hip, edgy feel to it, I really love it.

“We’re working on some surprise auctions, and there will be food and drink, of course. With a 6 p.m. start time you can just come down after your work day and get right into the holiday spirit. This one is going to be special, I just know it. I hope everyone reading this can come out and join us for a little while.”

**HOT TIP OF THE WEEK**

OK, let’s continue with our “superlative” nominations at our much loved live music venues.



Charlie Rohlfling

**Jed Skillman, a relative newcomer to music promotion, is helping stage a “A Very Jolly Christmas” Friday at Thomas Family Winery.**

We’ve floated some picks for “Friendliest” and “Coziest,” and last week we even did “Music-est.” Our nomination this week actually crosses over just about every category. Thomas Family Winery is cozy, it’s friendly, it’s been doing live music longer than anyone in town. I’m gonna nominate Thomas Family as the “Warmest” spot in Madison. It’s warm from the little fireplace that burns all season long, and the way you are greeted and treated when you step through the door! This weekend, they are

be great this weekend, you have my personal guarantee!

Charlie Rohlfling is a retired advertising man and partner in The Red Bicycle Hall music venue. Look for his distinctive fedora bobbing above the crowd, anywhere live local music is happening.

**MUSIC EVENTS SCHEDULE**

**Friday, December 20**

First Street Saloon — Hayden James

Thomas Family Winery — A Jolly Christmas Musical Celebration (7-10 p.m.)

Riverboat Inn — Erik Brunner (7-9 p.m.)

Mad Paddle — Old Habits (8 p.m.-Midnight)

Rivertown Grill — The Keith Swinney Band (9 p.m.-1 a.m.)

Tailgators — Matt Red Moore (10 p.m.-2 a.m.)

The Central — Pennyroyal

**Saturday, December 21**

First Street Saloon — L&L Karaoke

Red Bicycle Hall — Joslyn & the Sweet Compressions (8 p.m.)

Mad Paddle — Ethan Workman (7-11 p.m.)

Rivertown Grill — Dirty Laundry (9 p.m.-1 a.m.)

Thomas Family Winery — Bladen Family Christmas (8-11 p.m.)

The Central — Liquor Boxx

**Sunday, December 22**

Rivertown Grill — Joe & Deano (7-10 p.m.)

Tailgators — Smokin Jokers (9 p.m.-1 a.m.)

## FIRE

FROM PAGE A2

### MARBLE HILL FIRE

One week ago on Thursday, Dec. 12, at approximately 11:22 a.m., Hanover and Kent fire departments were paged to a report of a chemical fire at the North American Metallurgic Building 2, 9727 Barker Drive, located on the old Marble Hill Power Plant site.

Fire units responded within a minute of dispatch. Once en route, Jefferson County 911 dispatchers informed those responding that the fire was inside of a material hopper and that the manager stated that propane tanks were approximately 300 yards from the blaze.

Hanover Fire Chief Ron Kroger requested that New Washington Fire Department respond with a tanker to assist.

First arriving fire units reported there was heavy black smoke coming from

the building, but that all employees had been evacuated. After speaking with the facilities manager and performing a scene assessment, Kroger was able to determine that the fire was not a chemical fire, and that it was actually a conveyor belt, some nearby wiring, and the material being processed located near the hopper originally in question.

Once it was determined that the fire was contained, Kent and New Washington firefighters were released to return to their stations and Hanover units remained on scene, working to ventilate the thick smoke from the large structure, and ensure that a rekindle did not occur.

Approximately 3,000 gallons of water was utilized in fighting the fire. Hanover firefighter Cory Thomas said plant management stated their process would be down for a couple of weeks while trying to assess the damage and make repairs.



# Trimble buys 224 acres for target development

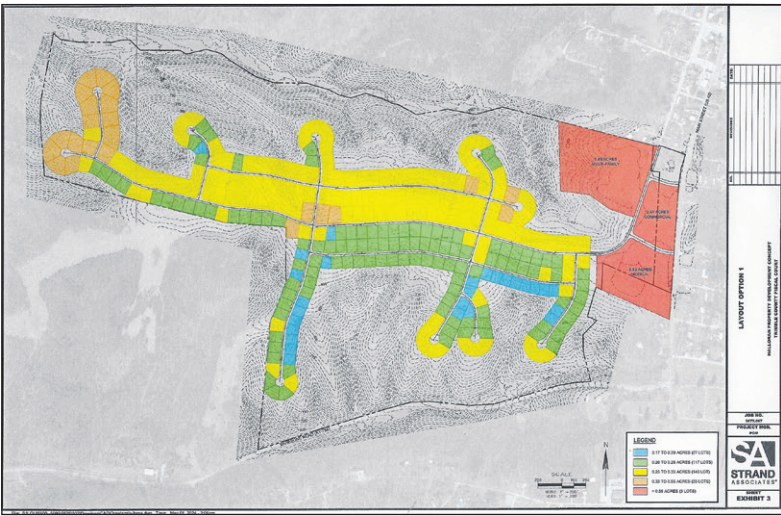
Project to include housing, urgent care, commerce

BY CINDY WARRICK  
PAXTON MEDIA GROUP

Trimble County Fiscal Court has purchased a 224-acre parcel of land just outside the Bedford city limits for \$1 million in an effort to spur economic growth and housing and bring better health care to the county.

The property, known locally as the Moore Farm located on the north side of U.S. 42 south near the Bedford city limits, was purchased at a negotiated price of \$1,021,568.58 using a low-interest loan through the Kentucky Association of Counties. The county's plan is to develop multiple types of housing with recreational facilities and community services, a commerce center for business and retail and an urgent care center that would provide expanded health services in the county.

Strand and Associates, a professional site development consulting firm, has been contracted for the preliminary concept for the development, which also includes



Handout  
**A drawing of the 224-acre site Trimble Fiscal Court has purchased to develop for housing, commerce and an urgent care medical facility on U.S. 42 South near Bedford.**

lakes, streets, bike and hiking trails and a community building.

A grant request is in the works to build an urgent care center on the U.S. 42 side of the property that would be affiliated with UofL Healthcare. A commercial center would be located nearby with retail shops serving not only residents of the development but the county as a whole. Non-subsidized apartments are proposed for the property behind a historic home on Ball

Street with other housing — including various lot sizes and home types — and amenities on the remainder of the property.

Trimble Judge-Executive John Ogburn said the \$1 million purchase price is just the beginning of an investment that could return far more to the county in terms of economic growth

“If all 303 lots sell for approximately \$250,000 homes, the county will have over a \$75 million investment,” Ogburn said.

“With a 10% return, the county will see a \$7.5 million return. Part of the project will appeal to a younger population while other parts will appeal to a more mature population. Economic growth is the key to a vibrant community.”

Ogburn also indicated that Trimble County builders and contractors will be given preferential treatment on the projects, if they are interested, to keep as much of the economic impact as possible within the county.

### IN OTHER BUSINESS:

- Trimble County has been approached to establish a drug taskforce to address that issue in the community and collaborate with other task forces in the region.

County Attorney Crystal Heinz presented a proposal from the North Central Kentucky Drug and Narcotics Task Force for Trimble to collaborate with a six-county region to address growing drug issues in the area. Counties proposed to be in the task force include Trimble, Oldham, Henry, Gallatin, Owen, and Carroll counties. She said the task force would have independent operating and enforcement authority.

Members of fiscal court will consider the request.

- Bedford Fire Chief Will McCoy, who is also director of Emergency Management Services, informed the court that to date there have been 937 ambulance runs in 2024 but he expects that number to be around 1,000 by the end of the year. He said that approximately 660 were actual transport calls where patients were taken to area hospitals.

- Fire subscription notices have been mailed in both the Milton and Bedford fire districts. McCoy urged property owners to pay the \$50 subscription in lieu of being charged for the actual cost of fighting a fire. Without a subscription, the cost of firefighting is charged back to the property owner, most times amounting to thousands of dollars.

“The cost of the subscription is so tiny compared to the cost of the fire,” McCoy said. “With a subscription, there is no cost to the resident for the fire expenses. Residents may drop their fire subscriptions in a designated receptacle in the sheriff’s office when they pay their taxes.”

The next Trimble Fiscal Court Meeting is 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 6.

# KYTC unveils plans for new Kentucky River Bridge at Carrollton

\$30 million project in design phase

BY TAYLOR WILLIAMS  
PAXTON MEDIA GROUP

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) District 6 hosted a public open house at the General Butler State Resort Park Conference Center recently to unveil their plans for replacing the structurally deficient U.S. 42 bridge over the Kentucky River between Carrollton and Prestonville.

Residents of Carroll and nearby counties attended the two-hour meeting to review the design plans and other visuals for the new bridge that will replace a two-lane span that opened in 1952 and carries more than 10,000 vehicles daily. Representatives from KYTC were on hand to answer questions and residents were given and opportunity to provide feedback on what they thought after seeing plans for the estimated \$30 million project, which were laid out in architectural renderings placed on easels and located throughout the conference center.

Bob Yeager, Chief District Engineer for District 6, said most of the comments received from Carroll County residents were positive and most were “in favor of the project” and having a new bridge in the community.

“I think if there’s any resistance at all, it’s ... the time it might take to do that and what the condition of the (existing) bridge is today,” he said. “I think I’ve heard more comments about how the old bridge is impacting their lives today as opposed to

what the new bridge will look like.”

The current bridge, which is actually the second bridge at the site with the original span completed in 1899, is currently limited to 22 tons but has been even lower at various times based on bridge inspections and occasional work required to improve structural integrity. Local officials have been lobbying for decades for funding and a plan to replace the old bridge.

Yeager said the new bridge is needed because the old bridge is “difficult to repair because of the condition that it’s in” and how substandard it has become. He compared the process to an old house with a rotting foundation. “You would consider building a new house before you consider jacking the old house up and trying to fix the foundation,” he explained.

Jake Ryle, public information officer for KYTC District 6, said planning and design began in 2018 for replacing the bridge, a six-year plan that includes \$2,262,000 for design, \$3.25 million for right of way, and \$24.6 million for construction which about to a total of \$30,112,000.

Yeager said the new bridge will be more modern than the existing bridge but no schematics are currently available on what the span will look like. He said KYTC officials “don’t know exactly what the bridge will look like yet” because the project is “still in the design phase.”

However, the new bridge will be constructed “immediately north of the existing

bridge” so that as the new bridge is being built, the current bridge can still be in operation for vehicles up to 22 tons. However, once the new bridge is completed, passes all inspections and is in service, the old span will be torn down.

“There’ll be some days where you have to make the transition to the approaches, but for the most part, we’ll keep the bridge in service throughout the construction process,” Yeager said.

He added that since there is park property located adjacent to the bridge site in both Carrollton and Prestonville, the plan is to “use part of that park property and then ... give the area where the bridge is now back to the park” in essentially a land swap.

One improvement at the core of the new bridge is designing and building a span capable of much higher weight limits of “the current weight restrictions” that are still in place on the current bridge. The weight restriction in question is the change from allowing vehicles that were 22 tons to only allowing vehicles that were 10 tons.

“That’s imperative in this area that trucks are able to transverse with their proper weights,” Yeager said.

He also noted that the new bridge “will include sidewalks” for pedestrian use. “It will allow people to walk from one community to the other without using a vehicle to do that,” he said noting that includes those “who just want to travel the bridge for the scenic view” as well as “runners and joggers” who “use it for exercise.”



Taylor Williams

**Carroll County Fiscal Court District 2 Magistrate Clay Cable (right) speaks with Mike Bezold, branch manager of Project Development, about one of the schematics for the new Carrollton-Prestonville Bridge at last Wednesday's Kentucky Transportation Cabinet District 6 open house.**

“We’re excited to finally get this bridge moving and ... we’re gonna do every- project forward,” Yeager thing we can to move the added.

## Your Simple Guide to a Financially Secure Retirement Budgeting and Beyond



### Layin' it on the line

By Stephen Dybwad  
Retirement Planning/  
Wealth Management

After years of hard work, retirement is your ultimate goal, but getting there without a hitch means planning ahead. One of the most essential tools you'll need is a sensible budget. This straightforward guide helps you map out a secure retirement so you can kick back without constantly checking your bank balance.

Why Retirement Budgeting is a Must

You might think retirement is ages away, but your current choices will shape your financial future. Here's why you should be paying attention:

- **See Into the Future:** A reasonable budget acts like a financial GPS, helping you calculate how much you'll need to live comfortably.
  - **Know Your Habits:** Track what you're spending now to make it easier to manage your finances later on.
  - **The Essentials:** A thoughtful budget ensures you can cover your basics like housing, food, and healthcare without anxiety. Building Your Retirement Budget
- When planning your retirement, it's essential to consider where your money will come from:
- **Social Security:** This is often a crucial part of your retirement income, based on

past earnings.

- **Pensions:** If you're lucky enough to have a pension from your employer, that's another reliable income source.
- **Personal Savings:** This includes your 401(k), IRAs, and other personal investments.
- **Extra Income:** Side gigs, rental income, or part-time work can also help add a little cushion to your retirement budget.
- **Healthcare:** As you age, your health needs may change, so set aside funds for emergencies and regular check-ups.
- **Leisure:** Don't forget to allocate some money for the fun stuff—travel, hobbies, and other activities that make retirement enjoyable.

#### Mastering Your Retirement Budget

To get the most from your retirement budget:

- **Be Realistic:** Consider what you expect to earn and spend, but also be prepared for surprises.
- **Track Your Spending:** Keep an eye on how much you're spending and adjust as needed.
- **Stay Adaptable:** Your needs and the economy will change, so update your budget accordingly. Bonus Tips for Smart Budgeting
- **The Early Bird:** The sooner you start saving, the more you'll have, thanks to the magic of compound interest.
- **Tax Benefits:** Use tax-advantaged accounts like 401(k)s and IRAs to maximize your savings.
- **Consult the Pros:** Consider seeking advice from a financial advisor to explore all your options, including safe investments.
- **Lifestyle Changes:** If you're looking to stretch your retirement dollars, think about downsizing or moving to a more affordable area.

Retirement is your reward for years of dedication and hard work. Creating a solid retirement budget ensures you can enjoy this time fully without financial stress. Remember that today's thoughtful planning is your best bet for a relaxed and comfortable retirement. While there are various ways to ensure a stable income in retirement, including options like annuities, the key is to build a diversified plan that fits your unique needs and goals.

Remember, it's never too early to plan for your future. Consult with a financial advisor for tailored advice and explore all the financial tools available.

- **Importance of Budgeting:** A solid budget is essential for predicting your financial needs and covering basic living expenses in retirement.
- **Income Sources:** Consider Social Security, pensions, personal savings, and potential extra income like part-time work or rentals.
- **Expense Planning:** Budget for housing, food, healthcare, and leisure activities to ensure a comfortable and enjoyable retirement.
- **Mastering the Budget:** Be realistic, regularly track your spending, and remain flexible to adapt to life changes and economic shifts.
- **Extra Tips:** Start saving early, take advantage of tax benefits, seek professional advice, and consider lifestyle changes to stretch your retirement dollars.

**Stephen Dybwad, a long time Hoosier resident, is a member of Syndicated Columnists, a national organization committed to a fully transparent approach to money management. Syndicated Columnists is the sole provider of this material, both written and conceptual, for this column. All rights reserved.**

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## LAND

FROM PAGE A1

Speaking at Wednesday's Redevelopment Commission meeting, Steinhardt said surveying work has already begun by Winterwood since winter weather could impact progress in the next couple of months. He said phase one will take 12 to 18 months to complete with anticipation that phase two would begin in 2026.

In other business, the Redevelopment Commission:

- Approved awarding the contract to connect the Heritage Trail in Madison to the south entrance of Clifty Falls State Park to Temple and Temple Excavating and Paving at a cost of \$2,294,894, the best of eight bids received. The winning

contract falls within the \$2.6 million funding for the project — \$2,160,160 from the State of Indiana's Next Level Trails grant program and \$440,000 in Destination Madison dollars from READI funds allocated by Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority — and Steinhardt estimates that with engineering fees the cost of the project will be close to the \$2.6 million funding. He is hopeful construction of the extension to the park entrance will be completed by the fall of 2025.

- Steinhardt said Tax Increment Finance (TIF) collections for 2024 were \$2,238,800, which is \$94,800 more than the \$2,144,000 that was anticipated. He said in the last four years there's been an increase of \$525,000 in TIF collections. “We anticipate the revenue continuing to increase,” he said. The

Redevelopment Commission's year-end fund balance is \$1,553,069.

“It's been great year,” said Steinhardt, noting the Redevelopment Commission members are have made a “great impact.” He said DG Market, which opened in September, is “doing extremely well” and the Shoppes at Sunrise Crossing, which opened last year “continues to be very successful. The impact is being seen and felt throughout the community.”

- The second of three retail addresses at the front of the Shoppes at Sunrise Crossing, 2480 Michigan Road, now has a new tenant with Domino's Pizza relocating on the south side this week after moving from its previous store on Clifty Drive. Mattress Firm is located in the middle of the building and retail space is still available on the north side.



# TUBA CAROLS



Bob Demaree  
Performing during Saturday's Tuba Carols event were (from left) Dylan Vaden, Miranda Anderson, Aaron Brown and Leif Estes. The low brass group played holiday music at the Broadway Fountain



Bob Demaree  
Hannah Johnston (left) and Len Echols performed last Saturday at the Broadway Fountain during the Tuba Carols event Christmas music event in downtown Madison.

## CITY

FROM PAGE A1

Courtney said the bond issue gives the city “a unique opportunity to begin the long awaited safety and road surface improvements that we have been planning for the past several years,” and once CCMG funds are “awarded, it will provide \$3 million of immediate funding to execute that part of the Main Street Master Plan.”

He also cited other highlights from the week that include a successful closing on the real estate and financing with Winterwood Incorporated on the sale of property for what will be developed into the Residences of Sunrise Crossing — the first phase providing a 93-unit multi-family housing development and expected to expand to 183 units after phase two is completed. “It is much needed housing,” Courtney said. “We haven’t had significant housing built in almost 40 years so that breaks that dormancy cycle.”

On Wednesday, the Madison Redevelopment Commission awarded the contract for extending the Heritage Trail to the entrance of Clifty Falls State Park. “That will allow us to start construction on that first phase,” said Courtney, noting that phase two will soon begin planning and design to extend that trail from Clifty Park to Hanover.

“That’s just this week. Think what 2025 has in store,” he said, while also reflecting on other aspects of the past year. “We’re closing out what I think has been a remarkable year” for the city.

During 2024, Madison was named the No. 1 small town in the Midwest by USA Today, the Great American Main Street award winner, Indiana Chamber Community of the Year and has been trademarked as Indiana’s Music City.

There were ribbon cuttings for Madison Port Authority expansion, the reopening of Crystal Beach Aquatic Park, the unveiling of the updated Ohio Theatre facade and marquee, the grand opening of the DG Market downtown, the opening of Ohio River Legacy Park and completion of the gateway project with unveiling of the River’s Edge sculpture.

Action at Tuesday’s City Council meeting involved approval of additional appropriations as a matter of bank reconciliation. “It has no effect on our budget. It’s money that’s already been received or spent, and it’s a clean-up item,” said Courtney. The matter now goes before the Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF) and if that approval is achieved, then the City Council will have one final special meeting before the end of the year to execute the final transfers.

Council Member Patrick Thevenow commended the work of Clerk-Treasurer Shirley Rynearson on the budget and operation of that office. “I want to thank you, Shirley, for all the work you’ve done,” Thevenow said. “You’ve done a whole lot that needed to be cleaned up and you’ve

done a great job. You’ve been very informative and helpful to the Council.”

The Council also approved establishing a nonreverting operating fund for park purposes by changing four sub funds for Sunrise Golf Course, Crystal Beach Pool, Rucker Sports Complex and the City of Madison Campground. Council Member Carla Krebs, who is also president of the Parks Board, said, “Last year we created four sub funds in the parks, and we found out later there is no such thing as a sub fund” in KeyFund, the city’s accounting software program. “It’s a clerical thing we need to change from a NRO sub fund to just a NRO fund. We’re not changing anything. We’re not creating anything new. It’s simply a clerical change.”

Krebs asked to suspend the rules and move to second reading in order to gain final approval for the matter before the end of the year, which was approved unanimously by the Council.

In other business, the Council:

- Approved a renewal of the Riverfront Liquor License for River Oak Chophouse, 605 West Main St. “They surpassed all our requirements,” said Emily McKinney, the city’s associated economic development director.
- Tabled action on a zoning amendment for 2317 Lanier Drive by Jonathan Thompson to amend the zoning map and rezone the property from general business to medium density residential. The application had been given an “unfavorable” recommendation by the Plan Commission at its Nov. 12 meeting after Thompson failed to show up twice on the application.

Thompson was in attendance at Tuesday’s City Council meeting, noting he has been living in a camper on the property. There was discussion about the lack of utilities available to the camper and the fact that the property is not zoned for that use. The Council voted to table the matter until the Jan. 7 meeting. Courtney suggested tabling would provide an opportunity for Thompson to meet with the city’s planning department and resolve current issues with the property and his living conditions.

- Held the first reading of an ordinance to change 130 Miles Ridge Road from low density residential to general business, which had received a “favorable” recommendation from the Plan Commission to allow Dr. Michael Becht to open an orthodontist office in that location.
- City resident Champ Claussen addressed the Council to commend Police Chief Shawn Scudder, noting that since Scudder assumed the office Jan. 3, “there has been significant positive change that has been noticed and should be encouraged in our police department.” Claussen also proposed establishing a week to focus on citizens contributing to the betterment of other citizens. “It should be a week where we as citizens reach out to others in need,” he said.

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Cubs dominate North Decatur from start to pick up 1st win

BY DAVID CAMPBELL

Danny Gibson had grown tired of watching his Madison Cubs play well and have nothing to show for it. On Tuesday, the Cubs finally got the reward they have been working for.

Madison dominated the game from start to finish and rolled over North Decatur 65-36 in a rare mid-week boys basketball contest for the Cubs. After two weeks of close calls, Madison was at last able to claim that first win on the season.

"If you look at the other teams' records they were 19-5. So it was some good competition," Gibson said. "We were in every single game and we felt good, but we got tired of being in every game, and we wanted to get a win. We followed exactly what the game plan was. We were very prepared."

Mid-week games can sometimes have a lulling effect on teams but Madison came out sharp. Carlos Salom opened the scoring with a 3-pointer for the Cubs and Madison quickly took control, leading 16-8 after the first quarter and 30-15 at half-time.

For Gibson, the difference in the game was Madison's defense. The Cubs held North

Decatur to just 31% shooting for the game — including 5-of-21 on 3-pointers — while allowing the Chargers just nine free-throw attempts.

"It was definitely our defense," Gibson said. "We got after it and followed the game plan."

Madison (1-5) held North Decatur to single digits in each of the first three quarters and took a 45-22 lead into the fourth. The Chargers managed 14 points in that final frame but Madison got 20 of its own to blow open the game.

While Madison's defense was strong, the offense was also on point. The Cubs shot 55% from the floor, including a blistering 67% in the second half. Madison also hit eight of the 20 3-pointers it attempted, a 40% rate.

"We got our young sophomore, Gabe Fife, back. He's a good, quick guard, and that adds another piece to our rotation. We already have really good shooting with Landon True and Mason Davis and Damon Harden and (Fife) adds another piece," Gibson said.

The Cubs had five players reach double-figures in scoring with Davis posting a double double of 12 points and 13 rebounds



David Campbell

Madison's Carlos Salom (4) and Zach Vinup (middle) and North Decatur's Owen Eldridge (3) smile as the Grinch prepares to throw the tip before Tuesday's game at Madison.

to go along with four assists. True led the team in scoring with 14 points, Fife had 13, Zachary Vinup scored 12 and Salom had 11.

"Mason Davis is the heart and soul of this team. He's one of the best on-ball defenders in all southern Indiana, and he can shoot it too," Gibson said.



David Campbell

Madison's Landon True shoots a 3-pointer during the Cubs' win over North Decatur on Tuesday at home.

"I mean, getting 10 rebounds is not a surprise, because he's a hustler."

Owen Rennekamp scored 12 points and Brady Mauer had six for North Decatur (2-4).

Madison returns to action on Saturday when the Cubs host Austin.



Jack Dempsey | ASSOCIATED PRESS

Indianapolis Colts' Jonathan Taylor runs for what would have been a touchdown during the second half of an NFL football game against the Denver Broncos on Sunday in Denver. Taylor dropped the ball before crossing the goal line.

Taylor's goal line gaffe costly to Colts, fantasy football players

BY ARNIE STAPLETON  
AP PRO FOOTBALL WRITER

DENVER — Even the beneficiaries of Jonathan Taylor's goal line gaffe couldn't understand why anyone coasting in for a touchdown would let go of the football before crossing the goal line.

"I don't get it, but I'm not going to try to," Broncos coach Sean Payton said after Taylor's 41-yard touchdown-turned-touchback allowed Denver to turn the bloop into a blowout.

"I don't know, man. It was a big run in the game for a sure touchdown," Broncos safety P.J. Locke said. "Because, I mean, he has some jets. On God, he has some freakin' jets. And I just think he was already ready for his celebration."

"I don't know, I couldn't tell you. It's an unfortunate play."

For Taylor and the Colts (6-8), maybe, but a godsend for the Broncos (9-5), whose 31-13 victory snapped the franchise's seven-year run of losing records and put them on the cusp of their first playoff berth since the 2015 season.

Taylor sliced through Den-

ver's defense for a 41-yard touchdown run in the third quarter but as the teams lined up for the extra point that would have given Indianapolis a 20-7 lead, the crowd went crazy watching the replay on the stadium's giant scoreboard.

Referee Carl Cheffers announced the TD was under review.

"And I'm thinking, why are they reviewing it?" recounted Taylor, who, up to that point, had no idea he'd goofed up.

"No, you're never consciously aware you're dropping the ball," Taylor said. "Otherwise, you wouldn't do it."

The Broncos responded to the gift by closing the game on a 24-0 blitz after scoring just seven points in their first nine drives.

"I don't know how it would have played out after that, but I do know we would have had six more points if I had crossed the goal line with that ball," Taylor said.

Taylor was roasted on social media for his blunder, and it certainly didn't help him that this was the first weekend of

fantasy football playoffs.

In standard scoring leagues, Taylor, a star who gets the starting nod better than 99% of the time in fantasy football, would have produced a 10.1-point play had he held onto the ball a millisecond longer to complete his 41-yard touchdown run.

Instead, the 40-yard run and fumble produced just 2 points in fantasy football because he lost the six points for a TD, two more for a fumble and the .1 because that last yard didn't count. That's plenty enough wasted points for countless fantasy football players to have been eliminated from their playoff brackets.

Thus, the extra online outrage.

"That has never happened to me before," Taylor said, "and it will never happen again."

Taylor wasn't alone in his misery Sunday. In Nashville, Cincinnati safety Jordan Battle thought he had a 61-yard fumble return for a touchdown until he dropped the ball just shy of crossing the goal line, just like Taylor did.

SEE GAFFE/PAGE B6

Madison swimmers come up short against Jeff

BY THE COURIER STAFF

Madison's swim teams lost a hard-fought battle in the pool against Jeffersonville on Tuesday.

The Lady Cubs were just edged out by Jeff 86-84 in a meet that came down to the final relay where the Lady Cubs were barely out touched. The boys had several personal bests in a 94-55 loss.

The girls needed just one extra finish to win the meet, finishing just two points behind a very competitive Jeff team.

"The girls are really coming into their groove," Madison coach John Schutte said. "They swim with great passion, and it's definitely demonstrated when you see them come from behind to win a relay event."

"Our boys swam with a lot of heart and grit," Schutte continued. "While the score for the boys was a little lopsided, they gave it their all. I'm very proud of all the boys. They are very competitive, as you will see from the results. We are just outmanned. This group of boys demonstrate great character every time they compete."

Top results for the Madison girls were: Lilly Canida, first, 200 free, 2:06.44 and first, 100 fly, 1:01.28; Reilly Kuppler, first, 50 free, 25.81 and first, 100 free, 57.91; Avery Johnson, first, 100 back, 1:06.12 and second, 200 IM; Tayleigh Johnson, first, 100 breast, 1:17.74 and third, 200 free, 2:23.05; Kuppler, Tayleigh Johnson, Emma Wynn and Canida, first, 200 free relay, 1:52.00; Reagan Wynn, second, 500 free, 6:36.43; Canida, Emma Wynn, Avery Johnson and Kuppler, second, 400 free relay, 4:00.04; Kira Brittain, Tayleigh Johnson, Avery Johnson and Penelope Bibbs, second, 200 medley relay, 2:11.4; Bibbs, third, 200 IM, 2:56.56; Wynn, third, 100 free, 1:06.08; and Rae Hearne, Poppy Kelsey, Maddie Guirguis and Sophie Guirguis, third, 200 free relay, 2:20.82.

Top results for the Madison boys were: Camdyn Sever, first, 50 free, 21.98 and first, 100 free, 49.42; Garrett Klein, first, 100 fly, 59.86 and second, 200 IM, 2:20.26; Cole Goodnight, first, 100 back, 1:05.08; Goodnight, William Overpeck, Klein and

Sever, first, 200 medley relay, 1:48.45; Klein, Overpeck, Owain Kelsey and Sever, first, 200 free relay, 1:41.43; and Overpeck, second, 100 breast, 1:10.08.

Last Thursday, Dec. 12, Madison split a dual meet with Greensburg. The girls won 101-66 and the boys lost 89-57.

Top finishes for the Madison girls were: Tayleigh Johnson, first, 200 free, 2:22.95 and second, 100 breast, 1:17.37; Canida, first, 50 free, 25.14 and first, 100 free, 55.21; Avery Johnson, first, 100 back, 1:05.32 and second, 100 fly, 1:10.44; Avery Johnson, Tayleigh Johnson, Canida and Kuppler, first, 200 medley relay, 2:02.01; Canida, Wynn, Avery Johnson and Kuppler, first, 400 free relay, 4:08.59; Kuppler, second, 50 free, 26.37 and second, 100 free, 59.48; Wynn, second, 200 free, 2:24.14; Bibbs, second, 200 IM, 2:52.09; Bibbs, Poppy Kelsey, Tayleigh Johnson and Wynn, second, 200 free relay, 1:59.05; Maddie Guirguis, third, 200 IM, 3:04.03; Sophie Guirguis, third, 100 fly, 1:31.72; Laura Boles, third, 500 free, 7:48.24; Kelsey, third, 100 back, 1:17.31; Brittain, Kelsey, Jenna Renfrow and Boles, third, 200 medley relay, 2:37.27; Rae Hearne, Maddie Guirguis, Sophie Guirguis and Brittain, third, 200 free relay, 2:21.51; and Ruthi Whitaker, Maddie Guirguis, Sophie Guirguis and Boles, third, 400 free relay, 5:27.53.

Top finishes for the Madison boys were: Sever, first, 50 free, 22.06 and first, 100 free, 49.63; Klein, first, 200 IM, 2:17.99 and second, 100 fly, 1:01.50; Trenton Schafer, third, 200 free, 2:06.59; William Overpeck, second, 100 breast, 1:11.47 and third, 200 IM, 2:28.15; Goodnight, second, 100 back, 1:05.20; Goodnight, Overpeck, Klein and Sever, second, 200 medley relay, 1:50.89; Schafer, Overpeck, Kelsey and Sever, second, 200 free relay, 1:38.61; Schafer, Goodnight, Klein and Kelsey, second, 400 free relay, 3:59.05; and Kelsey, third, 100 free, 58.70.

Madison hosted Southwestern on Thursday for their final swim meet before the holidays. The Cubs return to action on Tuesday, Jan. 7 when they host Salem.

CALENDAR

Friday, Dec. 20

BASKETBALL

Hanover women vs. Stevenson, TBA

Switzerland Co. girls, Henry Co. Tourney, TBA

Shawe boys host Crothersville, 7:30 p.m.

Southwestern boys at Jac-Cen-

Del, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 21

BASKETBALL

Switzerland Co. girls, Henry Co. Tourney, TBA

Southwestern girls host Providence, 2:30 p.m.

Madison boys host Austin,

7:30 p.m.

Southwestern boys hosts Clarksville, 7:30 p.m.

SWIMMING

Switzerland Co. hosts South Ripley, Silver Creek, 10 a.m.

Shawe, Southwestern at Floyd Central, 11 a.m.

WRESTLING

Southwestern boys at East Central, 9 a.m.

Switzerland Co. girls at Shenandoah, 9 a.m.

Madison girls host Lady Cub Classic, 9 a.m.

Madison, Switzerland Co. boys at Columbus East, 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, Dec. 22

No local events

Monday, Dec. 23

No local events

Tuesday, Dec. 24

No local events



# Notre Dame-Indiana get 1st taste of CFP under Friday night lights

**BY MICHAEL MAROT**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Marcus Freeman spent his first two seasons as the Notre Dame coach chasing the playoff dream.

This year, he's living it — at home.

After closing the regular season on a 10-game winning streak and getting two weeks to prepare for the most meaningful postseason game of his career, Freeman is finally ready to lead the seventh-seeded Fighting Irish against 10th-seeded Indiana on Friday (**TV:** Live on ABC at 8 p.m.).

“We’ve been in the playoffs since Week 3,” Freeman said, alluding to their postseason hopes following the stunning loss to Northern Illinois. “Every game we play is a version of a playoff game in our minds. We have to continue to understand that you don’t have any more added pressure than you’ve had the previous 10.”

Except the Irish (11-1) know this one is different.

Notre Dame hasn’t made a national championship run since 1988, its longest title drought since winning the school’s first in 1924. And unlike previous playoffs, the Irish will be playing the first game on campus in Col-

lege Football Playoff history.

Just how unusual will this environment be?

It’s the first time Notre Dame has hosted a postseason game, the first time Notre Dame Stadium has hosted a Friday night game and the first time since 1990 that a Notre Dame home game has not been telecast by NBC.

Still, the Irish are doing what they can to make this seem like just another football week.

“The hardest thing throughout this whole process has probably been finals here at Notre Dame because that’s no joke,” quarterback Riley Leonard said. “Otherwise, it’s like a couple of bye weeks for us. We handle it the same way. Practice has been the same, the same recipe for success.”

But the stakes are significantly higher in this matchup between the two Indiana schools that have met just once since 1959. Notre Dame won 49-27 in 1991.

No. 9 Indiana (11-1) is the most improbable playoff entrant.

Associated Press Coach of the Year Curt Cignetti engineered an eight-game turnaround in his first season with the Hoosiers, setting a new single-season school record for victories while falling just a tiebreaker short of

playing for its first Big Ten title since 1967.

The Hoosiers are scoring 43.3 points, the most of any playoff team, and have one of the FBS’ stingiest defenses, too. And even though Indiana failed its only test against a ranked foe, the Hoosiers believe that loss will help them do what most still believe impossible — reaching the Sugar Bowl for a quarterfinal game against No. 2 seed Georgia.

“It was a tough loss, but I think it was really important for us to have a game like that, to be tested and know what it takes to win these games,” quarterback Kurtis Rourke said, referring to the 38-15 loss at then-No. 2 Ohio State last month. “This is a win or go home kind of setup, so we’re going to have to make sure that we come with our best effort.”

They also may have one key advantage — postseason experience.

Cignetti and many of his assistant coaches were together for FCS and Division II playoff teams, and Cignetti also has that national championship ring from his days as Alabama coach Nick Saban’s recruiting coordinator.

“Well, I am kind of used to this routine,” Cignetti said. “But I

don’t think it’s a major change for any of the coaches, to be quite honest with you, that are in the playoff.”

**CROSS TALK**

Notre Dame’s defense has been one of the best all season despite a rash of injuries, including two that took out preseason All-Americans.

But one of those, defensive tackled Howard Cross III, is expected to return Friday after missing the final three regular season games. There’s little doubt Cross will be fresh, nearly six weeks after suffering the high ankle sprain. The question is will he be rested or rusty?

“I feel physically, fine,” Cross said. “So I’m just happy, blessed to be able to get on the field.”

**STAYING AHEAD**

Indiana didn’t just win games this season. It dominated opponents.

Ten of the Hoosiers 11 wins were by 14 or more points and they faced deficits in only three games and only once in the second half. But even if that’s not the same story underneath the Friday night lights, the Hoosiers insist they’re ready for any challenge.

“We know we’re supposed to

be here, we know we belong, but we’re always going to have that chip (on our shoulder),” Indiana receiver Elijah Sarratt said. “We remember what everyone was saying during the season and remember what everyone is saying now. We’re going to go down there, focus on us and try to handle business.”

**RUNNING DOWN A DREAM**

The most telling matchup Friday will be Notre Dame’s ground game against Indiana’s defense.

The Irish offense has centered primarily around a three-pronged running attack that features Leonard, Jeremiyah Love and Jadarian Price.

Indiana, meanwhile, leads the nation in fewest yards rushing per game allowed (70.8) and the 2.46 yards per carry allowed is second best in FBS. Even in their loss, Ohio State rushed 29 times for just 115 yards. So the Hoosiers know where they must begin if they hope to advance.

“We’ve got to stop the run,” all-Big Ten linebacker Aiden Fisher said. “That’s something we’re very prideful in here as a defense and something that they are really good on offense. It’s going to be a really good matchup.”

## PREP BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

# Quick start leads Shawe to win over Trinity Lutheran 66-49

**BY THE COURIER STAFF**

Shawe built a nine-point lead after the first quarter and never relinquished the advantage in a 66-49 win over Trinity Lutheran at home in girls basketball Tuesday.

Allison Knoebel scored 27 points on 6-of-12 shooting from the floor and 11-of-13 at the free-throw line to lead the Hilltoppers. Audrey Barron had 22 points and 12 rebounds, Jamison Williams had nine points and Ava Turner scored eight points.

Shawe, now 9-2 on the season, hosted Henryville on Thursday in its final game of 2024. The Hilltoppers will next compete in the Edinburgh Tournament on Jan. 2.

**REBELS FALL TO EASTERN**

Southwestern’s girls suffered a 53-34 loss at Eastern (Pekin) on Tuesday.



Abby Hooven/Paxton Media

**Trimble County’s Dylan Penick (23) launches a shot over the outstretched arms of Eminence defender Joshua Holland (5) as the Raiders’ Hudson Jent (33) and Warriors’ Brady White (15) scramble for rebounding position on the play. The Warriors defeated the Raiders 65-54 on Monday in Eminence.**

Baleigh McAfee had nine points and five rebounds for the Rebels, Rorie Scroggins had nine points and four

rebounds, Harlee Hill had eight points and seven rebounds, and Olivia Simpson had eight points, three rebounds and three assists.

Southwestern, now 8-4 on the season, hosted Rock Creek on Thursday and competes in the Hauser Tournament beginning Dec. 26.

**SHAWE BOYS LOSE AT RIPLEY**

Shawe’s boys suffered an 84-42 loss at South Ripley on Wednesday.

Braiden Smith scored 32 points to lead Shawe.

Shawe, now 1-4 overall, hosts Crothersville on Friday and competes in the Rumble on the River Tournament at Trimble County on Thursday.

**LADY RAIDERS BEAT EMINENCE**

Trimble County’s girls picked up a 44-41 win at

Eminence on Tuesday.

Ainslie Stark had 13 points to lead Trimble, Kendra Mahoney had eight points and Jolie Wilcoxson and Trinity Crawford scored six each.

Trimble, now 3-1 overall and 2-0 in the 31st District, hosts Gallatin County on Friday and competes in the Berea Holiday Classic starting on Dec. 27.

**PACERS LOSE TO SOUTH RIPLEY**

Switzerland County’s girls dropped a non-conference game at South Ripley, 58-34 on Tuesday.

Switzerland, now 3-8 on the year, faces Anderson County (Ky.) in the Henry County (Ky.) Tournament starting on Friday.

**CARROLL GIRLS BEAT HENRY**

Carroll County scored a 50-41 win at home over

Henry County on Tuesday.

The Panthers, now 3-2 overall and 1-1 in the 31st District, travels to Owen County on Friday and heads to Paris on Saturday. Carroll then hosts the Pam Browning Invitational starting on Thursday.

**CARROLL BOYS FALL TO HENRY**

Carroll County’s boys suffered a 91-54 loss at Henry County on Monday.

Cooper Gutman had 17 points to lead the Panthers while Rylan Kinman had nine points.

Carroll, now 1-3 overall and 1-1 in the 31st District, traveled to Owen County on Thursday and face Trinity (Whitesville) in the Marion County Tournament on Friday.

**TRIMBLE DROPS TWO GAMES**

Trimble County’s boys

dropped a 65-54 decision at Eminence on Monday and a 63-40 game at home to Williamstown on Tuesday.

The Warriors blitzed Trimble 17-0 to open the game and never looked back as Avery Holland scored 19 points for the Warriors.

Trimble used a 9-0 run to battle back to within 8 points by halftime. Hudson Jent sank a 3-pointer to slash the Warriors’ lead to single digits early in the third quarter but Eminence scored the next six points to push back ahead by 15. The Raiders later cut the margin to nine points before the Warriors then closed out the wire to wire 11-point win.

Trimble, now 1-6 overall, hosted Gallatin County on Thursday and hosts the Rumble on the River Tournament beginning on Dec. 27.

## HANOVER ROUNDUP

# Women knock off No. 21 UMass-Dartmouth in Puerto Rico

**BY THE COURIER STAFF**

Hanover’s women closed the game on a tear to score a 77-72 win over No. 21 Massachusetts-Dartmouth in the San Juan Classic in Puerto Rico on Wednesday.

The Panthers trailed 72-69 with 48 seconds left in the

game when Katherine Benter hit two free throws to close the gap to one. Benter then hit a 3-pointer 10 seconds later to push Hanover ahead by two.

After a missed shot by UMass, Benter hit two more free throws with 15 seconds left

and Alexis Wines nailed a free-bie with 13 seconds to go to ice the win.

Grace Bezold had a double-double of 22 points and 13 rebounds and Benter had 18 points and 10 rebounds to lead the Panthers. Sammy Berman added 13 points.

Hanover, now 8-2 on the season, faces Stevenson on Friday in Puerto Rico and then travels to Bluffton on Jan. 4.

**MEN FALL AT ANDERSON**

Hanover’s men suffered a 77-71 loss at Anderson on Wednesday.

C.J. Walls scored 11 points to lead the Panthers while Coleman Sater had nine points and six rebounds.

Hanover, now 6-3 overall and 2-2 in the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference, faces Denison in the Otterbein Classic on Dec. 29.

# Southwestern girls swim to win at Charlestown

**BY THE COURIER STAFF**

Southwestern’s girls swim team scored a quad meet win at Charlestown on Tuesday.

The Lady Rebels had eight individual wins and beat South Ripley 313-145, New Washington 325-65 and Charlestown 304-256. In the boys meet, Shawe beat Southwestern 64-54 and lost 400-54 to Charlestown and 214-58 to South Ripley. Southwestern lost 211-52 to South Ripley and 409-43 to Charlestown.

Riley Crawford and Natalee Crawford each picked up two wins. Riley won the 50-yard freestyle in 27.82 and the 100 freestyle in 1:01.85 while Natalee won the 200 individual medley in 2:32.28

and the 100 backstroke in 1:04.59. Raygan Crawford won the 100 butterfly in 1:08.64, Alexis Dean-Wells won the 200 freestyle in 2:35.51, Natalee Crawford, Adalei Watson, Raygan Crawford and Riley Crawford won the 200 medley relay in 2:15.28, and Riley Crawford, Natalee Crawford, Dean-Wells and Raygan Crawford won the 400 freestyle relay in 4:26.85.

Shawe’s Matthew Vaughn won the boys 100 freestyle in 51.05 and was second in the 200 individual medley in 2:15.13, while Orin Elkins was third in the 200 freestyle in 2:34.28 and fourth in the 100 backstroke in 1:19.72.

Other top finishes for the Southwestern girls

were: Watson, second, 200 free, 2:50.21 and third, 100 breast, 1:39.47; Raygan Crawford, second, 28.05; and Watson, Mae Pierson, Sophia Carie and Trihn Tu, third, 200 free relay, 2:44.19.

Southwestern’s Shane Hardy was fifth in the boys 50 freestyle in 31.12 and fifth in 100 freestyle in 1:18.25 and Robert De Paz Gonzalez was sixth in the 100 freestyle in 1:19.43 and seventh in the 50 freestyle in 35.36.

On Saturday, Southwestern, Shawe and Switzerland County each competed in the Seymour Super duals.

Southwestern’s girls went 5-1 with wins over Scottsburg, Salem, Sil-

ver Creek, South Ripley and Switzerland County. Switzerland’s girls went 3-3 with wins over Scottsburg, Silver Creek and South Ripley.

On the boys side, Shawe defeated Scottsburg, Switzerland County and Southwestern. Southwestern beat Scottsburg and Switzerland County and Switzerland beat Scottsburg.

Top results for Southwestern’s girls were: Natalee Crawford, first, 100 back, 1:05.08 and second, 50 free, 27.06; Raygan Crawford, second, 100 fly, 1:09.20 and third, 200 free, 2:28.19; Riley Crawford, Natalee Crawford, Raygan Crawford and Haylee Crawford, second, 200 medley relay, 2:07.45;

Riley Crawford, third, 100 free, 1:02.97 and third, 100 back, 1:12.69; and Natalee Crawford, Riley Crawford, Adalei Watson and Raygan Crawford, third, 400 free relay, 4:33.07.

Results for the Southwestern boys were: Shane Hardy, 11th, 50 free, 33.56 and 11th, 100 free, 1:17.62; and De Paz Gonzalez, 12th, 50 free, 34.45 and 12th, 100 free, 1:21.74.

Shawe’s Vaughn placed second in the boys 500 freestyle in 5:29.20 and third in the 100 backstroke in 1:04.57 while Elkins was seventh in the 100 freestyle in 1:05.95 and eighth in the 50 freestyle in 28.72.

Finishes for the Switzerland girls were: Molly Hicks, Lily Jester, Eva

Hicks and Piper Taylor, second, 200 free relay, 2:13.46; Taylor, third, 500 free, 6:53.33 and fifth, 50 free, 30.98; Molly Hicks, third, 200 IM, 2:51.19 and fifth, 100 fly, 1:21.66; Eva Hicks, fourth, 100 breast, 1:31.50 and seventh, 200 free, 2:53.61; and Jester, seventh, 100 back, 1:54.48 and 13th, 100 free, 54.59.

Switzerland’s Caleb Ridener was second in the boy 100 freestyle in 54.59 and fourth in the 100 breaststroke in 1:15.53.

Southwestern and Shawe competed at Madison on Thursday and both swim at Floyd Central on Saturday. Switzerland hosts South Ripley and Jac-Cen-Del on Saturday.

## COURIER AREA SPORTS SHORTS

**BY THE COURIER STAFF**

- Shawe’s Allison Knoebel and Matthew Vaughn have been named Ohio River Valley Conference players of the week. Knoebel won the award in

girls basketball after scoring 45 points and dishing 21 assists with 15 rebounds and 11 steals in three games including scoring her 1,000th career point.

Vaughn won the award in boys swimming with three wins.

- Madison jayvee boys basketball lost 56-18 at home to North Decatur on Tuesday. Dayton Bolton and Ethan

Norris each scored four points for the Cubs.

Madison, now 0-6 on the season, hosts Austin on Saturday.

- Shawe boys junior varsity

basketball lost 64-14 at South Ripley on Wednesday.

Nate Fewell had five points for the Hilltoppers.

Shawe hosts Crothersville on Friday.



# Lillard, Antetokounmpo lead Bucks to NBA Cup

**BY TIM REYNOLDS**  
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

LAS VEGAS — Damian Lillard and Giannis Antetokounmpo stood side-by-side during the postgame celebration after the NBA Cup final. Antetokounmpo was holding the MVP trophy. Lillard was holding the bigger trophy.

And it was a moment that Lillard had waited a long time to savor.

He's been a rookie of the year, a 3-point contest champion, an All-Star MVP, even a member of the league's 75th anniversary team. And while his biggest goal is still winning an NBA championship, the significance of winning the NBA Cup was not lost on the 13-year veteran.

"I've had a lot of experience individually where I've had accomplishments and stuff," Lillard said after the Bucks beat the Oklahoma City Thunder 97-81 on Tuesday night in the

Cup final. "But to have some team success and win something and be the last team standing in this tournament, it feels great."

The Bucks have a championship coach in Doc Rivers, the core of a team that won a title in 2021 — Antetokounmpo, Khris Middleton, Brook Lopez, Bobby Portis and Pat Connaughton among them — and one of the game's elite guards in Lillard. Starting 1-6 and 2-8 this year might have raised some eyebrows, but the Bucks insisted that they never doubted themselves.

They've been one of the league's hottest teams since that awful start and rolled through the in-season tournament with a 7-0 record. Winning the NBA Cup might be a reminder — perhaps an unnecessary one — of the Bucks' potential.

"I think it reminds us that we can beat anybody," Rivers said.

"And we don't care if it tells everybody else that. We only care about us. It's what I said on the first day of camp. I also said we can lose to anybody if we don't play right."

Antetokounmpo and Lillard are leading the way, and that can't be a surprise.

Both are playing at their perennial All-Star level. They're the highest-scoring duo in the league, combining to average more than 58 points per game. They were the best two players on the floor in the NBA Cup final, Antetokounmpo getting a triple-double — 26 points, 19 rebounds and 10 assists — on his way to MVP honors, and Lillard scoring 23.

Year 1 of their pairing after Lillard wound up in Milwaukee after 11 years in Portland wasn't perfect. It was good, not great. Year 2 is clearly better. It's another sign of what might be for the Bucks going forward.

"People wanted to put me

with Giannis and think it was just going to be perfect right away because we've both been high-level players," Lillard said. "But I come from a situation where I've always had the ball, and he's had a decade of him having the ball and playing a certain way."

"I think time is the No. 1 thing," he added. "It just took time for us to get to know each other better as people. You can't just trust somebody that you're paired with when you don't really know who they are, how they think and how they operate. So, I think time has helped us."

Time has helped Lillard as well.

He averaged 24.3 points and 7 assists per game last year. Those are all-world numbers for just about anyone. He didn't think much of how he played, though, and he never got to the point of feeling totally comfortable in a new role, a new place, with a new team.

He does now.

"Getting healthy, getting my training in and having my mind right coming back into the season was all it really was for me," Lillard said. "When we lost in the playoffs last year, I said it right after the game. 'People will see.'"

Seeing is believing.

There's still more than two-thirds of the regular season left. Cleveland — Milwaukee's first opponent when the Bucks return to regular-season play on Friday — and defending NBA champion Boston have clearly been the best two teams in the Eastern Conference to this point. There are tons of challenges ahead and there surely will be plenty of ebbs and flows.

"I'm so happy for Dame that we got our first trophy together," Antetokounmpo said. "This is just the beginning. We have to keep on improving and getting better, and we will be better."

# Is QB Thompson-Robinson long-term solution for Browns?

**BY TOM WITHERS**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BEREA, Ohio — Dorian Thompson-Robinson won't be satisfied with just being a fill-in piece to Cleveland's confounding quarterback puzzle.

He wants to be a permanent one.

Not just the short-term fix. The long-term answer.

With the team's future at QB so unsettled, Thompson-Robinson, who will start this week against Cincinnati, said he's viewing the next three weeks as his opportunity to show the Browns he can be their starter in 2025 — and maybe beyond.

An audition?

"Oh, yeah. Oh, yeah," Thompson-Robinson said excitedly on Wednesday. "Best believe we're trying to take full advantage of it, too. We're going to go out there, and we're going to try to win these games."

The second-year QB

from UCLA will make his fourth career start Sunday after coach Kevin Stefanski benched mistake-prone Jameis Winston, who revived Cleveland's offense over seven starts but threw eight interceptions in his past three games.

While Stefanski said he's operating "week to week" with his starting quarterback, Thompson-Robinson seems to be working off another timeline.

It might be a temporary job. He's treating it like a full-time gig.

"I'm focusing on the Bengals," the amiable 25-year-old said. "That nickel scheme. That base scheme, and trying to break down that coverage right now. I'm not worried about anything other than this week."

Thompson-Robinson went 1-2 in three starts as a rookie last season.

His first came as a shock when he got thrown into the lineup at the last minute after Deshaun Watson tested his shoulder in pregame warmups and couldn't go.

His other two starts went much better, and Thompson-Robinson credited much of that to having a full week of practice reps with the starting offense. In his second outing, he led the Browns on a game-winning drive in a 13-10 upset of the Pittsburgh Steelers.

Stefanski has been impressed with Thompson-Robinson's development in Year 2 — his study habits, his attention to detail, how he prepares himself for games. Now he and the Browns will see if it translates to better game performance.

"I can go back to when we first got Dorian and some of the things were different in terms of call-

ing the plays in the huddle and some of the cadence stuff at the line of scrimmage," Stefanski said. "So, he's done a very, very good job of getting up to speed on all the nuance of the position. He's done a very good job of keeping himself prepared for when a moment comes that he's being put in there. He's really taken to the preparation part of this really well."

Thompson-Robinson learned last season there is no such thing as a guarantee in the NFL. Any time the ball is snapped, there can be lasting consequences.

One week after his win over the Steelers, he suffered a concussion against Denver. The injury led to the Browns signing free agent Joe Flacco, who carried them to the playoffs.

"When your leash is kind of short, every play matters, and so I know

that," he said. "It's not like I'm in here walking on eggshells or playing conservative, but I know that I have to get this team up and down the field. It starts with the first play and it ends with the last. ... Ball security is job security, and making sure that the other team doesn't touch it is probably my main concern."

It was Winston's undoing.

A few weeks ago, he threw for 497 yards but also had two pick-6s in a loss at Denver. Winston energized the Browns after Watson suffered a season-ending Achilles tendon injury, and now he's in a backup role after likely throwing away his chance to be a starter — at least in Cleveland.

Winston handled the demotion like a pro, but admitted it hurt.

"Do I like it? Of course not," he said. "I know I'm

# NFL has record number of playoff clinches, bottom dwellers at Week 15

**BY JOSH DUBOW**  
AP PRO FOOTBALL WRITER

There might be more intrigue in the race for the No. 1 pick than in the race to make the playoffs in the final three weeks.

There's already a record number of teams that have clinched a playoff spot with three weeks to play in the NFL season and a record number of teams with three or fewer wins after Week 15 as a league built on parity has become one of haves and have-nots.

Seven playoff spots have been clinched at this point in the season for the first time ever and the 50% of playoff berths filled are the most with three weeks remaining, according to Sportradar. The previous high since the 1970 merger was 42.9% in 2022 when six spots were clinched with three weeks to play.

The entire AFC field could be determined by the end of the games on Sunday afternoon. Baltimore and Denver can clinch spots with wins, while the Chargers need a win and losses by Indianapolis and Miami.

The NFC could have five of the seven playoff spots clinched

by the end of this week if Washington beats Philadelphia on Sunday and Green Bay beats New Orleans on Monday night.

But the competition for the No. 1 pick is fierce with a record seven teams having three wins or fewer. There have been three seasons of at least 16 games with six teams with three or fewer wins after 15 weeks with it also happening in 2014, 2008 and 1991.

Las Vegas and the New York Giants have the inside track with 2-12 records and the top pick could come down to strength of schedule if both teams lose out.

There are five other teams — Carolina, Jacksonville, New England, Cleveland and Tennessee — tied at 3-11 and in position to get the No. 1 pick if the Giants and Raiders both win.

**UP AND DOWN**

The back-and-forth shootout between Detroit and Buffalo put Lions quarterback Jared Goff and the Bills in select company.

Goff became the first player in NFL history to lose a game after throwing for at least 400 yards and five TDs with no interceptions in Detroit's 48-42 loss.

Five weeks after becoming the first quarterback in 12 years to win a game after throwing five interceptions, Goff ended up on the losing side of a five-touchdown game. He's the fourth quarterback ever to do both and the only one who did it in the same season.

Matt Ryan and Tony Romo pulled off the feat once, while George Blanda won three games with five interceptions, including the 1961 AFL title game, and lost twice after throwing at least five TD passes.

Since 1950, quarterbacks are now 200-23 when throwing at least five TD passes and 19-191-5 when throwing five or more interceptions.

The Bills have been on a roller coaster of their own, having lost a game in Week 14 to the Rams when they scored 42 points and then won a game against Detroit when they allowed 42.

Buffalo joined the 1966 Giants as the only teams with back-to-back games when both teams scored at least 40 points in the game. New York lost both of those games and the Bills joined the 1983 Packers as the only

teams in NFL history to win a game when allowing at least 40 points and lose a game scoring at least 40 in the same season.

Bills quarterback Josh Allen also became the second quarterback with back-to-back games with at least 400 yards rushing and passing, at least four total TDs and no turnovers. Joe Burrow did it in 2021.

**BYE-BYE BYE ADVANTAGE?**

Week 15 was the final one of the regular season that featured teams coming off byes with six teams playing on extra rest on Sunday.

Those teams went 4-2 with Baltimore, Denver, Houston and Washington getting wins, while Indianapolis and New England lost.

For the season, coming off the bye proved to be of little benefit with teams playing after a week off going 15-17 with the extra rest. That marked the second time in the last 10 seasons that teams coming off the bye had a losing record, with teams going 11-21 in 2019.

The advantage of the bye has lessened since the 2011 CBA limited the amount of practice time teams could have during

the week off. From 2002-10, teams had a .557 win percentage following the bye week compared to .523 since 2011.

**SLOP FEST**

On the NFL's most turnover-happy day in eight years, the Tennessee Titans and Cincinnati Bengals took the sloppy play to new lows.

The Titans gave the ball away six times and the Bengals committed four turnovers in Cincinnati's 37-27 win for the first 10-giveaway game in the NFL since Week 2 of the 2007 season when Detroit and Minnesota each had five in a 20-17 overtime win for the Lions.

The game included one of two fumbles this week by a player just before he crossed the goal line and contributed to the 51 turnovers overall on Sunday for the most on any day since there were also 51 on Dec. 11, 2016.

The sloppy play at Tennessee was about more than turnovers with the Bengals getting penalized 14 times and the Titans 12. That made the game the first since the 1970 merger with at least 10 turnovers and 25 penalties.

# Falcons name rookie Penix Jr. as starting QB

**BY CHARLES ODUM**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ATLANTA — The Atlanta Falcons are turning to rookie Michael Penix Jr. as their starting quarterback and benching veteran Kirk Cousins as they fight for their first playoff berth since 2017.

Coach Raheem Morris announced the decision in a statement Tuesday night.

"After review we have made the decision Michael Penix Jr. will be the Atlanta Falcons' starting quarterback moving forward," Morris said. "This was a football decision and we are fully focused on preparing the team for Sunday's game against the New York Giants."

The Falcons (7-7) ended a four-game losing streak with Monday night's ugly 15-9 win at Las Vegas. Cousins passed for 112 yards with one touchdown — his first TD pass in five games — and one interception. The 36-year-old has thrown nine picks over the past five games and leads the NFL with 16 interceptions.

Atlanta signed Cousins to a four-year, \$180 million contract in the offseason with \$100 million guaranteed before selecting Penix No. 8 overall in the NFL draft.

Cousins ended his touchdown drought with a 30-yard scoring pass to Drake London in the first quarter but had few other highlights against the woeful Raiders.

"It's not where I want to be," he said of his performance. "There's a lot of room for improvement and we'd like to finish a lot stronger here these last three weeks."

The Falcons made the switch about three hours after Morris told reporters he wasn't ready to make a decision on this week's starter.

"We talked about it last night," Morris said. "You know, there's no secret. We didn't play well enough at the quarterback position, and we've got to find ways to play better. So, all those things over the course of the week and we've got to do whatever is best to win versus the Giants."

**Wishing you a very MERRY CHRISTMAS**

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# Vandy QB Pavia wins injunction

BY TERESA M. WALKER  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Diego Pavia reacted to a federal judge granting his preliminary injunction Wednesday allowing the quarterback to play the 2025 season the same way he celebrated upsetting then-No. 1 Alabama in October.

“VANDY WE (expletive) TURNT,” Pavia wrote on social media with a 100 emoji.

U.S. District Judge William L. Campbell also told the NCAA that the organization cannot take any action against Vanderbilt or any other university that Pavia plays a fifth season for next year in his order issuing the injunction Wednesday. Campbell had asked attorneys at a hearing Dec. 4 both how quickly they could be ready for trial and the transfer portal window, which closes Dec. 28.

“With Pavia as quarterback, Vanderbilt has seen historic success — Vanderbilt beat both the University of Alabama and Auburn University — and the team will be playing in a bowl game for the first time since 2018,” Campbell wrote in an opinion issued with the injunction. “Those familiar with college football appreciate this remarkable accomplishment. Pavia estimates that he could earn over \$1 million in NIL compensation in the 2025-26 season.”

Campbell noted current NCAA bylaws had made Pavia ineligible to play Division I football in 2025 simply because the quarterback started his career at a junior college.

The judge wrote he was not persuaded by the NCAA arguments on Division I eligibility limiting athletes who start at junior colleges to three or four years. He noted the NCAA does not start the eligibility clock for prep school athletes even when they compete athletically against junior colleges or other schools that count as “collegiate institutions.”

“Given the different treatment of other student-athletes with comparable or more post-secondary experience, the NCAA's assertion that the eligibility rules are necessary to prevent age and experience disparities and preserve the quality of experience for student-athletes falls flat,” Campbell wrote in his ruling.

Campbell also wrote how the NCAA's eligibility rules have evolved from when freshmen weren't allowed to play to adding a redshirt rule. The judge also wrote that Pavia has a “strong likelihood of success” under the Sherman Act at trial because the organization's rules limiting junior college eligibility are “restraints on trade with substantial

anticompetitive effects.”

Pavia filed his lawsuit seeking an additional season Nov. 8 in the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee in Nashville. He has applied to Vanderbilt's masters' program for legal studies starting in January in case he won the injunction.

Attorney Ryan Downton of the Texas Trial Group said Pavia is “very thankful” for the expedited ruling by the court.

“The NCAA has not yet adjusted to the NIL era and continues to impose unfair restrictions on college athletes,” Downton said in a statement. “The Court's ruling is another step in leveling the playing field to allow college athletes to share in the billions of dollars earned due to their labor. While the ruling is limited to Pavia, we believe it may open the door for other former junior college players to obtain an additional year of eligibility without filing a lawsuit.”

Pavia did not get an offer from a Football Bowl Subdivision school coming out of Volcano Vista High School in Albuquerque, New Mexico. He went to New Mexico Military Institute in 2020, which the NCAA excluded from counting toward eligibility because of the pandemic. Pavia led the junior college to the 2021 national championship. He went to New Mexico State in 2022 and won 10 games in 2023.

The Conference USA Offensive Player of the Year then followed his head coach, Jerry Kill, and offensive coordinator Tim Beck to Vanderbilt this offseason.

Pavia is a big reason why Vanderbilt is 6-6. The Commodores play Georgia Tech on Dec. 27 in the Birmingham Bowl — the program's first since 2018. The Commodores wound up ranked twice in the AP Top 25 and that win over then-No. 1 Alabama snapped a 60-game winless skid over over AP top-5 teams.

“I couldn't be happier for Diego to be able to extend his college career,” Vanderbilt coach Clark Lea said in a statement Wednesday night. “This is great news for him and for our game. I am excited for what lies ahead for Diego and Vanderbilt football.”

Downton said Wednesday's ruling does not restrict where Pavia plays in 2025. Pavia was on the field two days ago as the Commodores prepare for their bowl game in video Vanderbilt shared on social media.

“He loves Vanderbilt and Coach Lea,” Downton said. “So long as he receives an appropriate NIL package, I expect to see him in the black and gold for as long as he has eligibility remaining and Jerry Kill and Tim Beck are coaching in Nashville.”

# Vick accepts head coaching post

NORFOLK, Va. — Michael Vick has agreed to become the head coach at Norfolk State in a return to football for the former NFL star, who has never coached at any level.

The 44-year-old Vick announced on his Facebook page on Tuesday night that he has accepted the job. Norfolk State did not immediately confirm the hiring of Vick, who grew up in nearby Newport News.

“Looking forward to coming back home,” Vick said in his social media post.

Vick starred in college at Virginia Tech and was a four-time Pro Bowler in 13 seasons for Atlanta, Philadelphia, the New York Jets and Pittsburgh. He helped launch an era of quarterbacks who were threats both running and throwing the ball.

Vick served 18 months in federal prison in the prime of his career after pleading guilty to his role in a

dogfighting ring. After his release in 2009, he returned to the NFL and won AP Comeback Player of the Year with the Eagles in 2010, but his best years were behind him.

He retired in 2017 and has advocated against animal cruelty while also working as an NFL analyst for Fox Sports.

Vick's hiring by Norfolk State was first reported Tuesday by the Virginian-Pilot.

Norfolk State fired coach Dawson Odums in November after a 4-8 season. The historically Black school plays in the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference. The Spartans have made one appearance in the FCS playoffs, losing in the first round to in-state rival Old Dominion in 2011.

Before accepting the Norfolk State job, Vick also spoke to Sacramento State about its open head coaching position.

		Jefferson Switzerland	Trimble/ Carroll	FRIDAY EVENING											
				6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10	10:30	11	
3 WAVE	6	2		WAV..	NBCN..	WAV..	News	Shrek	Happy's	Dateline NBC				WAV..	
4 WTTV	4			CBS4..	CBSN..	BigBa..	Sheldon	Christmas (N)		Josh (N)		Fire Country		CBS4..	
5 WLWT	2			News	NBCN..	WLWT	Hollyw..	Shrek	Happy's	Dateline NBC				News	
8 WISH	12			News (N)		Inside..	ET (N)	BobHe..	Connors	Childr..	Childr..	News (N)		News	
9 WCPO	23			News	World..	News	Extra	Football CFP First Round: Indiana at Notre Dame (N) (Live)							
11 WHAS	11	4		News	World..	ET (N)	Inside..	Football CFP First Round: Indiana at Notre Dame (N) (Live)							
15 WKPC	13			Ameri..	Edition	PBS News (N)		Comm..	Week	Holidays		John Rutter		BBCN..	
19 WXIX	10			FOX19	FOX19	Wheel	Jeopar..	Basketball St. John's at Providence				To Be Announced			
32 WLKY	5	5		News	CBSN..	Wheel	Jeopar..	Christmas (N)		Josh (N)		Fire Country		News	
34 WBKI	7	7		Neighb..	Connors	Sheldon	BigBa..	BobHe..	Connors	Childr..	Childr..	BigBa..	Sheldon	LastM..	
41 WDRB	8	9		News	News	FamFe..	FamFe..	Basketball St. John's at Providence							WDRB News at 10
A&E	28	36		The First 48		The First 48		The First 48 (N)		Cold Case (N)		Killer Cases (N)		First48	
AMC	29	26		*** The Great Outdoors ('88)				*** Uncle Buck ('89)				* National Lampoon's V...			
COM	45	59		Office	Office	Office	Office	Office	Office	Office	Office	Family..	Family..	Family..	
DISC	31	38		Gold Rush		Gold Rush		Gold Rush (N)		(:05) Last W. (N)		(:05) Gold Rush		GoldR..	
DISN	25	29		Bluey	Bluey	Big City	Big City	"Parade Day; DIY Guys"		ZOM..		ZOM..	Ladyb..	Ladyb..	
ESPN	32	44		(3:30) Football		Countdown (N)		Football CFP First Round: Indiana at Notre Dame (N) (Live)							
FREE	18	40		(5:00) *** Home Alone			(:25) * Home Alone 2: Lost in New York			* Dr. Seuss' Gr...		700Club			
FX	40	28		(5:30) * Jumanji: The Next Level				*** The Lion King ('19) Donald Glover.				* Jungle Book			
HBO	201	17		(:55) Dune		Dune: Prophecy		*** Dinner for Schmucks ('10)			* Beetlejuice Beetlejuice				
MAX	270	73		(1:10) *** Deadpool ('16)				*** Wanted ('08)			(:50) *** Terminator Salvation				
NEWSNTN	20	20		The Hill (N)		On Balance (N)		Cuomo (N)		Dan Abrams		Banfield (N)		Cuomo	
PARMT	35	41		TwoM..	TwoM..	TwoM..	TwoM..	*** Kingsman: The Secret Service ('14)							Movie
PARSHO	221	16		(5:35) *** The Matrix ('99) (P)				Dexter: Sin		The Agency		* Wolf of Wall Street			
TMC	233	74		Movie	* Naked Gun 33 1/3: Fi...			*** The Boy ('16)			(:40) *** Pearl ('22) Mia Goth.				
TNT	27	43		(5:00) * Lethal Weapon 4			*** Lethal Weapon ('87) Mel Gibson.			Rampage (N)		Movie			
USA	26	33		Chicago Fire		Chicago Fire		Fri. Night SmackDown (N)				*** Blockers ('18)			

	Jefferson Switzerland	Trimble/ Carroll	SATURDAY EVENING										
			6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM
3 WAVE	6	2	WAV..	NBCN..	Chefs	Song	Dateline NBC		Dateline NBC		SNL		WAV..
4 WTTV	4		(5:30) College Basketball			Sheldon	The Equalizer		48 Hours (N)		48 Hours (N)		CBS4..
5 WLWT	2		News (N)		NBCN..	Let'sT..	Dateline NBC		Dateline NBC		SNL		News
8 WISH	12		News	FamFe..	The Grand		* The Waltons' Homecoming				News (N)		News
9 WCPO	23		(3:30) Fo..	Football	TBA		Football CFP First Round: Tennessee at Ohio State (N) (Live)						
11 WHAS	11	4	(3:30) Fo..	Football	SportCtr (N)		Football CFP First Round: Tennessee at Ohio State (N) (Live)						
15 WKPC	13		Antiques		TimFa..	RedGr..	Kentuc..	Kentuc..	* * * * Paper Moon ('73)				Austin
19 WXIX	10		(4:30) NFL Football			Postga..	Basketball USC at Connecticut (N)			TBA		Floor	
32 WLKY	5	5	(5:30) College Basketball				The Equalizer		48 Hours (N)		48 Hours (N)		News
34 WBKI	7	7	(4:00) T..	TwoM..	The Rookie		* The Waltons' Homecoming			FamFe..		FamFe..	House..
41 WDRB	8	9	(4:30) NFL Football			Postga..	Basketball USC at Connecticut (N)			News (N)		News	
A&E	28	36	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage
AMC	29	26	(4:45) * National ...			* * * * Elf ('03) Will Ferrell.			* National Lampoon's Christmas ...			Movie	
COM	45	59	Office	* * * Daddy's Home 2 ('17)				* * * * The Other Guys ('10) Will Ferrell.			Family..		
DISC	31	38	Expedition		Expedition		Expedition		Expedition		Expedition		Expedi..
DISN	25	29	ZOM..	Zombi..	Place	Place	* The Naughty Nine			Prep		Big City	Big City
ESPN	32	44	(4:30) B..	SportC..	SportCtr (N)		Football CFP First Round: Tennessee at Ohio State (N) (Live)						
FREE	18	40	(15) Rudolph		(:20) * * * * The Santa Clause ('94)					(:25) * * * The Santa Clause 2 ('02)			
FX	40	28	(5:00) * Santa Cl..		* * * * Home Alone ('90) Macaulay Culkin.				* Home Alone 2: Lost in New York				
HBO	201	17	Movie	* * * Four Christmases			* * * Krampus ('15)			(:40) * * * MaXXXine ('24)			
MAX	270	73	(:05) The Knick		The Knick		* * Crank: High Voltage			(:35) * * * Demolition		Movie	
NEWSNTN	20	20	NewsNation (N)		NewsNation (N)		NewsNation (N)		NewsNation (N)		NewsNation		NewsN..
PARMT	35	41	(4:00) * John Wi...		* * * * John Wick: Chapter 2 ('17) Keanu Reeves.					* John Wick: Chapter 3 ...			
PARSHO	221	16	Dexter: Sin		* * * * Braveheart ('95) Mel Gibson. (P)						Dexter: Sin		Movie
TMC	233	74	Movie	(:35) * * * Vacancy ('07)		* * * * Out of Sight ('98)			(:05) * * * * Hard Eight				
TNT	27	43	(4:00) College Football			College	All Elite Wrestling: Collision				* Die Hard With a Veng...		
USA	26	33	(5:30) * * * Pitch Perfect 3			* * * * Blockers ('18) Leslie Mann.			* * * * Pitch Perfect ('12)				

	Jefferson Switzerland	Trimble/ Carroll	SUNDAY EVENING										
			6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10	10:30	11
3 WAVE	6	2	WAV..	NBCN..	Football (N)		(:15) Football Tampa Bay Buccaneers at Dallas Cowboys (N)						
4 WTTV	4		(:4:25) Football (N) (Live)		60 Minutes (N)		Kennedy Ctr. (N)					CBS4..	
5 WLWT	2		News	NBCN..	Football (N)		(:15) Football Tampa Bay Buccaneers at Dallas Cowboys (N)						
8 WISH	12		News	Inside..	* Tyler Perry's A Madea Christmas (P)				BobHe..	News	Sports	News	
9 WCPO	23		News	World..	S. Claus		* The Santa Clause ('94)			CMA Country		News	
11 WHAS	11	4	World..	News	S. Claus		* The Santa Clause ('94)			CMA Country		News	
15 WKPC	13		Last../	KeepUp	Last Tango		Lucy Wors (F)		Creatures		Creatures		Velvet
19 WXIX	10		Wheel	Jeopar..	Burgers/Krapo..		Simpso..	Univer..	-North	Krapo..	FOX19 (N)		FOX19
32 WLKY	5	5	(:4:25) Football (N) (Live)		60 Minutes (N)		Kennedy Ctr. (N)			News			
34 WBKI	7	7	BigBa..	BigBa..	* Tyler Perry's A Madea Christmas (P)			BobHe..	The Grand			ModF..	
41 WDRB	8	9	Preview	Luther..	Burgers/Krapo..		Simpso..	Univer..	-North	Krapo..	News (N) (Live)		News
A&E	28	36	The First 48		The First 48		First 48		First 48		First 48		First48
AMC	29	26	(5:00) * Elf		* National Lampoon's Christmas ...			* National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation					
COM	45	59	(5:30) * Talladega Nights: Ballad of...			* Daddy's Home 2 ('17)					Family..	Family..	Family..
DISC	31	38	Homestead "Heartland Heartache"			Homestead Rescue "Lone Wolf"					Homestead Rescue		
DISN	25	29	Big City	Big City	Big City	Big City	* Enchanted ('07)			* Good Luck Charlie, It'...			
ESPN	32	44	(5:00) 30 for 30		SportCity (N)		SportCity (N)		College Basketball				SportC..
FREE	18	40	Movie	(:35) * Home Alone 2: Lost in New York						* Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas			
FX	40	28	* Toy Story 4 ('19)				* The Lion King ('19) Donald Glover.				* Lion King		
HBO	201	17	(5:50) D..		(:50) Dune		(:55) Dune: Prophecy		Dune: Prophecy (N) (SF)			(:25) Dune	
MAX	270	73	(1:10) * The Devil Wears Prada				* Joy ('15) Jennifer Lawrence.			(:05) * I, Tonya ('17)			
NEWSNTN	20	20	NewsNation (N)		NewsNation (N)		NewsNation (N)		NewsNation (N)		NewsNation		NewsN..
PARMT	35	41	(4:00) * Top Gun...		(:55) 1923		1923 (N)		(:20) 1923 (N)			(:40) 1923	
PARSHO	221	16	(5:15) * Blade Runner 2049 (P)				Dexter: Sin		The Agency (N)		Sin (N)	(:45) Sin (N)	
TMC	233	74	(6:05) * True Grit ('10)				* Margin Call ('11)			* The Gambler ('14)			
TNT	27	43	(5:00) * Live Free or Die Hard				* Die Hard ('88) Bruce Willis.					* Die Hard	
USA	26	33	Law-SVU		Law-SVU		Law-SVU		Law-SVU		Law-SVU		Law-S..



THE Daily Commuter Puzzle

by Stella Zawistowski

ACROSS

1 “You said it!”

5 Positive quality

10 Historical periods

14 Game on horseback

15 Place to shop

16 \_\_\_ or less

17 “\_\_\_ of Eden” (Steinbeck novel)

18 Big

19 Prepare a cake

20 Very expensive

22 Gymnast’s uniform

24 Have a fancy meal

26 “Succession” network

27 Perform in a cast

30 Burial vault

32 Ravi Shankar’s instrument

36 Memorable times gone by: 2 wds.

39 Scientific info

40 Car or truck

41 Piece of tape

43 Study of business: Abbr.

44 Track competition

45 Lovable

47 Writing assignment

49 Long, skinny fish

50 Casual shirt

51 Media mogul

53 Big name in elevators

55 Hotel amenity

58 Map book

62 Group of three

64 Late

66 Marathon or 5K

67 Potter’s oven

68 Bawled

69 Square footage

70 \_\_\_ and ends

71 Detects a sound

72 Gone by

DOWN

1 Imitates

2 Water around a castle

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Created by Stella Zawistowski

12/20/24

Today’s Puzzle Solved

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46 Japan’s continent

48 Japan’s currency

52 Get rid of

54 Handbag feature

55 Not very spicy

56 Unadorned

57 Opera song

59 “\_\_\_ Croft”: Tomb Raider

60 Star pitchers

61 Place in the Senate

62 Boxing result: Abbr.

63 Free (of)

65 Football field units: Abbr.

THE Daily Commuter Puzzle

by Stella Zawistowski

ACROSS

1 Mass of gunk

5 Some other time

10 Mediterranean fruits

14 Caboose’s place

15 By oneself

16 Unoccupied

17 “Step \_\_\_ my office”

18 Sort of, slangily

19 Blood vessel

20 Human soul

22 Begs

24 Difficult

26 Pedicure place

27 Go out with

28 Strong compulsion

31 180-degree turn, for short

32 Hair-removal brand

33 Allowed by law

35 Make a selection

38 Movie pro who oversees camera work

42 Industrious insect

43 In unison: 2 wds.

44 A single time

45 Tire measurement: Abbr.

46 Common sugar

49 “Ghosts” network

52 Headed up

53 Letter-shaped fastener

54 Author Jeffrey

56 Taunted

60 Tolerated

61 George of “Star Trek”

65 \_\_\_ and soul

66 Perjurer

67 Leave out in pronunciation

68 Country road

69 Shade trees

70 Fender dings

71 Taylor Swift’s \_\_\_ Tour

DOWN

1 Clasp tightly

2 Glasses part

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Created by Stella Zawistowski

12/21/24

Today’s Puzzle Solved

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41 Easy to carry around

47 Loosens, as laces

48 Actor’s signal

49 Heavy rope

50 Cook with high heat

51 “Get out!”

55 That lady’s

57 Fly high

58 \_\_\_ St. Vincent Millay

59 Artificial colors

62 Bitter beer

63 Relatives

64 Boston summer hours: Abbr.

# Husband’s grocery splurges create strife

Dear Eric: My husband and I — both happily retired with good pensions and Social Security — make our weekly grocery trips together. We take turns paying with our flight-points credit cards. Once the bill arrives, we split the cost of our groceries down the middle, sharing the expenses equally for everything we purchase at our preferred grocery store. Our grocery shopping typically includes a few low-cost personal favorites that not both of us enjoy eating, but for the sake of simplicity, we have agreed to split the grocery costs evenly, 50/50.

My husband sometimes indulges in a piece of costly, extra-smoked pork he orders online from a specialty shop. I dislike it (the smell alone is off-putting to me), so I don’t eat it. He insists that I should also share the cost of this, based on our agreement to split the cost of groceries. However, since it’s a special order for himself, I don’t believe I should be responsible for half the cost, which he thinks is unfair and disloyal to our agreement. I find it unreasonable to pay for something that’s ordered outside our normal grocery purchases that is pricier than our usual groceries

and that I won’t consume. Who is being unreasonable here?

— Grocery Grousing



R. ERIC THOMAS  
ASKING ERIC

Dear Grocery: Probably both of you, and the shop that is pricing the pork. I think your husband is being more unreasonable than you, frankly, because you made an agreement. But this is so needlessly complicated, it’s amazing that it didn’t become an issue earlier. Is all food groceries, or is only food purchased inside the grocery store groceries? What if you buy Girl Scout cookies on the curb outside the store? Most importantly, what is this really about?

Do you feel that you’re being more fiscally responsible and don’t have the same opportunity for indulgences? If so, it’s wise to carve out two separate lines in the budget for indulgences — one for you, one for him. If he blows all his budget on one or two pork purchases and you still have yours to do with whatever you want, them the breaks.

But, again, think and talk about what is really going on here. Is this about feeling financial insecurity? Is this about an unequal share of household responsibilities? Is the pork a reflection of a pattern of cavalier behavior? All of these can be worked on and discussed. But you have to get to the meat of the problem.

# Woman fears being alone after father, partner die

Dear Eric: I am a woman in my late 50s. I have never been married or had any children. It was always my father who raised both myself and my sibling (who passed away at the age of 40). I am in a long-term relationship, and we both respect and love one another.

My father is in his late 80s and not in great health. I cannot stop worrying that when both my father and my partner leave this Earth, I will be all alone.

The friends that I had for more than 20 years have moved on to build their lives. I was left behind for reasons I prefer not to explain. My fears are that I am going to be left all alone. I feel like I am already grieving. The shape of the world that we live in is depressing.

How do I lift my spirits? I have tried some exercises, but I have arthritis, and it limits me. I would gratefully appreciate any and all advice you can give me.

— Upside Down

Dear Upside Down: Anticipatory grief is the experience of feeling sadness before a loss occurs. It can be really hard to navigate because there’s not an event to latch on to in the present. You’ve already taken the first step in dealing with it,

though, which is acknowledging that you’re feeling it. Don’t be afraid to talk about your fear with your partner or your father, as well. It may feel like you have to handle this on your own, which only compounds your fear of being alone after they pass. By expressing your love and the questions you’re wrestling with, you open the door for them to help you process them and perhaps see new perspectives.

A conversation with your father might focus more on how you can make the time you have meaningful. The conversation with your partner might also include practical discussions about planning or ways your partner can help you in your effort to lift your spirits.

Even the act of telling those we love that we’re going through a hard time can crack the door open inside of us and let a little light and relief in.

Additionally, it can be helpful to say, “I have planned for what I can plan for and, at this moment, I’m going to be present in my life and with the things that bring me joy.”

Talking about the way you feel with a counselor will also help, as will trying to think of activities or communities that you can get involved in now to help bolster your support system.



R. ERIC THOMAS  
ASKING ERIC

## SUDOKU

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## ASTROLOGY

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)** — Lead with confidence. Set your ideas in motion and stay passionate about seeing them through. The uplifting holiday spirit could enhance romantic harmony, making intimate moments especially delightful and memorable this evening.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** — Spending time with friends and loved ones might be your top priority right now. There may still be time to run those last-minute holiday errands. If you have been working hard you might even find an extra gift or bonus waiting for you.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)** — Opposites attract, they say, but sometimes that’s not entirely true. Sharing views and ideas might show that your friends or acquaintances are more similar than you initially thought. Consider finding common ground to build lasting friendships.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)** — As the week comes to a close, social activities might take center stage. With the holidays approaching, remember that “home is where the heart is.” Be mindful of random purchases as they could come with unexpected surcharges or penalties.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** — Get ready to jingle some bells or light some candles. Your focus might shift to entertainment and playtime, putting responsibilities on the back burner. If you want to make a big impression, find the courage to take the lead and show the way.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** — It may be necessary to focus on your tasks and deadlines, despite the coming holiday activities. Your calendar may be filled with many social entries. Try to get things settled and safely put away before things get too chaotic.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)** — Your sparkling charm

and inviting smile might draw admirers from all corners. You may embrace the festive spirit and enjoy holiday activities with others this winter solstice eve. Do your best to share peace and goodwill with everyone you come across.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)** — Everyday necessities and responsibilities might get in the way of enjoying fantasies or inspirational messages. While you may stay cheerful tackling mundane tasks, it could be tough to please everyone, no matter how diligently you work.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)** — You may be looking forward to a vacation or some pleasant days off for holiday celebrations. If you’ve fulfilled your end of a deal, met a deadline, or surpassed quotas, you might be able to start celebrating earlier. Have fun.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** — Embrace change, as it could broaden your horizons. New information or technology might require you to rethink your goals and plans. Careful analysis may help you balance honoring traditions with introducing new ideas and concepts.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)** — To end the week on a high note, explore ways to show that you’re a team player. Consider taking a genuine interest in the interests of others. You may discover some new and constructive activities that could leave you feeling proud of yourself.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)** — Your eyes might be bigger than your stomach so take it easy on second helpings. You may be amused by exaggerated stories shared by loved ones. There could be something that requires you to verify facts before you make concrete plans.

## SUDOKU

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## ASTROLOGY

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)** — Always strive to do the right thing for all involved. You may feel called to embrace the manners you learned as a child. Don’t arrive empty-handed, bring a small gift if you’re invited to someone’s home for a dinner, holiday celebration, or social gathering.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** — You could be filled with the spirit of the season. Allow yourself to bubble over with sociability and hospitality this weekend. Enjoy being the belle of the ball at any gathering where your presence and tact might give you an added edge.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)** — You may spend the day working to ensure everything is perfect for holiday festivities and upcoming gatherings. Be sure to take time to relax and enjoy the evening. Romantic partners may experience a peak of harmony and tender feelings.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)** — Planning holiday festivities may require your persistence. If you have been running on inspiration now could be the time to examine the pros and cons. Consider getting key elements and topics addressed before you indulge in fun.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** — Your partner might be burning the midnight oil. You could be busy balancing year-end statements or arranging holiday decor and presents. There may still be plenty of time for togetherness and fun once the responsibilities are complete.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** — Show you care by reaching out to old friends for a chat or calling someone to discuss holiday plans. Try to foster harmony between everyone you encounter. Consider taking the

opportunity to mend a recent rift before year-end.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)** — As the weekend kicks off, the air may be filled with a sense of “peace on earth, goodwill to men.” While wishful thinking alone won’t accomplish much, someone could give you the benefit of the doubt if you make a genuine effort.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)** — You may create an intentional atmosphere that is meant to put everyone at ease. Host loved ones this weekend without worrying about small imperfections in your space, let holiday decorations and genuine warmth steal the spotlight.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)** — Your holiday plans might be unique, involve travel, or create extra responsibilities. No matter how you celebrate, consider embracing nature by walking in the woods, buying some flowers, or hanging mistletoe in your doorway.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** — Friends might be caught up in gossip or new passions. You may benefit from gathering facts and having private conversations with trusted confidantes. Don’t allow yourself to dwell on someone’s momentary spurt of insensitivity.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)** — Someone close to you might be ready to settle down and commit themselves, romantic bliss may be on the horizon for you if you’ve been single. Consider creating a cozy, festive atmosphere to spread holiday cheer and delight others.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)** — Your focus may shift to making precious moments and connecting with your loved ones this weekend. Upcoming holiday events might remind you of your heritage, genealogy, or making your home a more comfortable place to live.



# Higher visibility in women’s sports brings rise in online harassment

BY NOREEN NASIR  
AND BRITTANY PETERSON  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — For Djaniele Taylor, attending WNBA games was the perfect way to rediscover a sense of community coming out of the long slog of pandemic-era lockdowns.

The 38-year-old Evanston, Illinois, resident has regularly attended Chicago Sky games for the last three seasons, after she watched the team win its first championship in 2021. As a queer Black fan, she felt the games were a supportive and safe sporting environment.

“I was hooked and I loved the atmosphere — it was very queer-friendly, very family-oriented, very diverse,” she said.

As the popularity of the WNBA skyrocketed this year, Taylor watched the price of her season tickets more than double since 2022. With the growth, she noted a “darker vibe shift,” too: What always felt like a positive setting started to take a more hostile turn at times.

As women’s sports set new records for attendance and viewership, Taylor and other longtime fans

watched with optimism — and unease. It’s a cycle female athletes and fans of women’s sports have come to recognize: With the increased and sought-after visibility also comes added scrutiny — as well as harassment and online abuse toward some players.

This year, fresh off the NCAA spotlight, former college basketball stars Caitlin Clark and Angel Reese made their WNBA debut for the Indiana Fever and the Chicago Sky, catapulting their personal brands as well as the popularity of the league among viewers.

Fans are tuning in for the love of the sport, as they always have, said Amira Rose Davis, assistant professor in the Department of African and African Diaspora Studies at the University of Texas-Austin. But they’re also drawn by the dynamics between players like Clark and Reese, who faced each other in the 2023 NCAA championship between the University of Iowa and Louisiana State University.

While both deny there’s any bad blood between them, tension has been drummed up by fans and increased media attention.

Beneath it are racial undertones that originated while the two played in college — with predominantly white Iowa pitted against predominantly Black LSU, and Clark and Reese “emerging as these kind of archetypes that people can run with,” Davis said.

“That really raises the engagement and just the raw numbers of viewership. And then it also solidifies those narratives,” she said.

It’s also led to harassment and abuse — much of it racially motivated and directed at players of color across the league and the wider sports landscape.

“Angel and Caitlin have given us an incredible platform to talk about how we treat Black and white athletes differently in the media,” said E.R. Fightmaster, co-host of Jockular, a podcast on the intersection of women’s sports and queer identity.

During the playoff matchup in September between the Connecticut Sun and Indiana Fever, the Sun’s Dijonai Carrington posted an email she received with a racial slur and graphic death and sexual assault threats.

Her teammate, Alyssa Thomas, shared her own experience.

“In my 11-year career, I’ve never experienced racial comments (like) from the Indiana Fever fan base,” Thomas said, after the Sun eliminated the Fever from the playoffs.

For her part, Clark has disavowed the toxic discourse, though some say she hasn’t done enough to try to rein in the racism by some of her Indiana Fever fans.

“People should not be using my name to push those agendas. It’s disappointing. It’s not acceptable,” Clark said back in June. “Treating every single woman in this league with the same amount of respect, I think, it’s just a basic human thing that everybody should do.”

At the end of the 2024 season after facing some criticism for initially failing to condemn the harassment, WNBA Commissioner Cathy Engelbert said, “There’s no place in sports for this,” and vowed to attack it “multidimensionally.”

The league should have done a better job preparing for the harassment, said

Frankie de la Cretaz, a freelance writer whose work explores sports, culture and queer identity. “They should have seen it coming based on the discourse between fans around Caitlin Clark and Angel Reese in college.”

The NCAA released a study in October showing online abuse toward student-athletes peaked during March Madness, with women’s basketball players receiving three times more threats than men’s players. For the first time in March Madness history, the women’s championship game

drew more viewers this year than the men’s.

“It’s very exciting, of course, to see the increased visibility of that increased popularity, but it is extremely concerning and disappointing to see what has come along with that,” said Lynn Holzman, vice president for NCAA women’s basketball.

A similar study found racist and sexist posts aimed at female athletes made up nearly half of all monitored abusive posts during the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris.

## GAFFE

FROM PAGE B1

In October, Jets rookie receiver Malachi Corely did the same thing, erasing his first NFL touchdown. He has yet to reach the end zone.

Like Battle’s blunder, Corely’s brain lock didn’t end up mattering much because it didn’t cost his team a victory. Taylor’s blunder turned the game around in Denver, whose win all but snuffed out Indy’s slim playoff hopes.

Taylor, Corely and Battle join an ignominious club of pros whose goal line goofs live in infamy.

In 2008, Eagles rookie receiver DeSean Jackson celebrated a touchdown against the Cowboys by flipping the ball behind him — at the 1-yard line. The most famous goal line gaffe came during Dallas’ 53-17 blowout of Buffalo in the Super Bowl following the 1992 season when Don Beebe chased down 290-pound defensive lineman Leon Lett and knocked the ball out of his right hand as he held it out in premature celebration of a touchdown.

Taylor’s goof-up seems different because he’s not a defender or a rookie and his mistake was indeed consequential. Plus, Taylor is used to scoring touchdowns. He has scored 52 of them in his five-year NFL career after scoring 55 times in his three seasons at the University of Wisconsin.

As a running back, Taylor knows he should have known better.

“You go over those scenarios, but it just can’t happen,” Taylor said. “No

matter the game, no matter the scenario, you could be up 50, down by 50, in a playoff game, the first game of the season. That should never happen.”

“You would think these offensive guys would hold onto the football getting through the touchdown nowaways,” Denver pass rusher Jonathon Cooper said. “But as you can see, it still happens. I just hope it never happens to us.”

Actually, it did happen to the Broncos back in the 2013 NFL opener when linebacker Danny

Trevathan was about to score a pick-6 in his first NFL start when he dropped the ball as he approached the end zone and it was knocked out of bounds for a touchback.

Although it didn’t matter in Denver’s 49-27 rout of the Ravens that night, Trevathan got an immediate tongue-lashing from defensive coordinator Jack Del Rio, who admonished him to bring the football back with him if he ever happened to get into the

end zone.

Trevathan did just that when he scored his first and only NFL touchdown on a 25-yard pick-6 of Philip Rivers’ pass two years later.

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WOODED ROLLING  
PRIVATE HORNER ROAD  
\$36,900

LEGAL NOTICE

INVITATION TO BID Trimble County Schools (TCS) will receive sealed bids and award a contract for: TRIMBLE COUNTY JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL RENOVATION, Bedford, KY. A pre-bid meeting will be held at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 19, 2024, at Trimble County Jr./Sr. High School cafeteria at 1029 US-421, Bedford, KY 40006. Bids will be received until 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 16, 2025 at the Trimble County Board of Education, Administrative Offices at 116 Wentworth Avenue, Bedford, Kentucky, 40006, at which time and place bids will be opened and read aloud. Bidders must be present at the bid opening. Bid documents are prepared by PICKETT / PASSAFIUME / ARCHITECTS, PLLC will be available on Tuesday December 17, 2024 at Lynn Imaging Plan Room at www.lynnimaging.com. TCS reserves the right to accept any bid, to reject any or all bids, to waive any informality in bids received where such acceptance, rejection, or waiver is considered to be in the best interest of the Owner. hspaxlp

LEGAL NOTICE

MEETING NOTIFICATION  
PROPOSED CHANGE OF  
ZONING MAP

The Plan Commission of the City of Madison has forwarded to the Common Council of the City of Madison a favorable recommendation for the request that the City of Madison Zoning Map be modified so as to change the zoning of the following listed properties from the current zoning classification of Low Density Residential (R-4) to General Business (GB).

Address/ Parcel I.D.  
130 Miles Ridge Rd  
39-08-23-300-122.000-007

You are hereby advised that a copy of said proposal is on file for examination before the hearing in the Office of Planning, Preservation & Design, 101 W. Main Street, Madison, IN 47250. Written objections to the proposal that are filed with the secretary of the commission before the hearing will be considered. Oral comments concerning the proposal will be heard at the January 7th, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. City Council meeting in City Hall, 101 W. Main Street, Madison, IN 47250. The hearing may be continued from time to time as may be found necessary. Raymond Dibaya, Associate Planner/Secretary Madison City Plan Commission hspaxlp

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF INDIANA  
COUNTY OF JEFFERSON  
SS:  
IN THE JEFFERSON CIRCUIT COURT  
CAUSE NUMBER: 39C01-2412-JT-000016

IN THE MATTER OF THE  
TERMINATION OF THE  
PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP: TL - DOB 3/24/2016 AND  
LAWRENCE KITHONGO  
(ALLEGED FATHER) AND  
ANY UNKNOWN ALLEGED  
FATHERS

SUMMONS FOR SERVICE  
BY PUBLICATION & NOTICE  
OF TERMINATION OF  
PARENTAL RIGHTS HEARING

TO: Lawrence Kithongo and  
Any Unknown Alleged Father  
Whereabouts unknown

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN  
to the above noted parent  
whose whereabouts are unknown, as well as Any Unknown Alleged Fathers,  
whose whereabouts are also unknown, that the Indiana Department of Child Services  
has filed a Petition for Involuntary Termination of your Parental Rights, and that an adjudication hearing has been scheduled with the Court.  
YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear before the Judge of the Jefferson Circuit Court, 300 East Main Street, Madison, IN 47250-3537 - 812-265-8930 for a(n) Initial/Fact Finding Hearing on 2/14/2025 at 1:00 PM and to answer the Petition for Termination of your Parental Rights of said child.  
You are further notified that if the allegations in said petition are true, and/or if you fail to appear at the hearing, the Juvenile Court may terminate your parent-child relationship; and if the Court terminates your parent-child relationship you will lose all parental rights, powers, privileges, immunities, duties and obligations including any rights to custody, control, visitation, or support in said child; and if the Court terminates your parent-child relationship, it will be permanently terminated, and thereafter you may not contest an adoption or other placement of said child.  
You are entitled to representation by an attorney, provided by the State if applicable, throughout these proceedings to terminate the parent-child relationship. If you have been appointed an attorney in the Child in Need of Services action involving the above-named child(ren), that attorney may not be automatically appointed to represent you in these proceedings. You must appear at the hearing currently scheduled in this matter and request that the Court appoint an attorney to represent you in these proceedings to terminate the parent-child relationship.  
YOU MUST RESPOND by appearing in person or by an attorney within thirty (30) days after the last publication of this notice, and in the event you fail to do so, adjudication on said petition and termination of your parental rights may be entered against you, in your absence, without further notice.  
Tabatha Eblen  
Clerk  
Brady Jette, 38657-15  
Attorney, Indiana Department of Child Services hspaxlp

LEGAL NOTICE

TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED  
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

By virtue of a certified copy of a decree directed to me from the Clerk of the Superior Court of Jefferson County, Indiana, in Cause No. 39D01-2405-MF-000441, wherein U.S. Bank National Association, as Indenture Trustee for the CIM Trust 2019-R3 Mortgage-Backed Notes, Series 2019-R3 was the Plaintiff, and Patricia Smith; and State of Indiana - Department of Revenue were the Defendants, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree, with interest and costs, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder on January 23, 2025, at the hour of 10:00 a.m. EST, or as soon thereafter as is possible, at 1150 JA Berry Ln, Madison, IN 47250, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Jefferson County, Indiana:

A PART OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 26, TOWNSHIP 3 NORTH, RANGE 9 EAST, DESCRIBED THUS: BEGINNING AT A POINT THAT IS TRUE EAST 1080.83 FEET AND TRUE SOUTH, 1189.07 FEET, OF THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION: THENCE SOUTH 51° 22' E, 200 FEET TO THE CENTER OF THE EXISTING COUNTY ROAD; THENCE SOUTH 40° 49' WEST, 100 FEET WITH THE COUNTY ROAD; THENCE NORTH 51° 25' WEST, 200 FEET; THENCE NORTH 40° 39' EAST, 100 FEET TO THE POINT BEGINNING, CONTAINING 0.46 AN ACRE, MORE OR LESS.  
Parcel Number: 39-14-26-000-026.000-012  
Commonly known as 4626 S. Hanover Saluda Rd., Hanover, IN 47243

Together with rents, issues, income and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisal laws. This is an attempt by a debt collector to collect a debt, and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.  
John B. Flatt, Attorney No. 20883-45 Ben Flint  
Attorney for Plaintiff Sheriff of Jefferson County  
NELSON & FRANKENBERGER, LLC Saluda Township  
550 Congressional Blvd., Suite 210 4626 S. Hanover  
Carmel, IN 46032 Saluda Rd., Hanover, IN 47243  
Street Address

The Sheriff's Department does not warrant the accuracy of the street address published herein.  
SERVICE DIRECTED TO:  
Type of Service: Sheriff  
Patricia Smith  
4626 S. Hanover Saluda Rd.  
Hanover, IN 47243  
Nelson & Frankenger is a debt collector and is an attempt to collect a debt; any information obtained will be used for that purpose. hspaxlp

LEGAL NOTICE

TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES  
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me directed from the Clerk of Circuit/Superior Court of Jefferson County, Indiana, in Cause No. 39C01-2310-MF-000868 wherein CMG Mortgage, Inc. was Plaintiff, and Hope R Draper, et al., were Defendants, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, on the 23 day of January , 2025, at the hour of 10am or as soon thereafter as is possible, at 1150 JA Berry Lane, Madison, IN 47250, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Jefferson County, Indiana.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: BEING A PART OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 31, TOWNSHIP 4 NORTH, RANGE IO EAST, MADISON TOWNSHIP, JEFFERSON COUNTY, INDIANA AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SAID NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER BEING MARKED BY A MAG NAIL SET; THENCE ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER WITH BORCHERDING ROAD NORTH 002811" WEST, 696.46 FEET (PASSING THROUGH MAG NAIL AT 150.00 FEET, 300.00 FEET, AND 546. 46 FEET) TO A MAG NAIL SET AT THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUING ALONG SAID EAST LINE NORTH 00°28' 11" WEST, 150.00 FEET TO A MAG NAIL SET; THENCE LEAVING SAID EAST LINE AND BORCHERDING ROAD SOUTH 89°09'11" WEST, 374.51 FEET (PASSING THROUGH A 4" IRON PIPE FOUND AT 33.99 FEET) TO A 5/8" REBAR SET; THENCE NORTH 0002°48' EAST 150.00 FEET TO A V" IRON PIPE FOUND; THENCE SOUTH 8915 14" WEST, 300.12 FEET (PASSING THROUGH STEEL FENCE POSTS FOUND AT 100.08 FEET AND 199.59 FEET) TO A STEEL FENCE POST FOUND; THENCE NORTH 0004°24' EAST 4.69 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE SOUTH 893648" WEST, 666.03 FEET (PASSING THROUGH A STEEL T-BAR FOUND AT 232.70 FEET) TO A 5/8" REBAR SET ON THE WEST LINE OF SAID NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER; THENCE ALONG SAID WEST LINE SOUTH 00°23'20" EAST, 370.55 FEET TO A 5/8" REBAR SET; THENCE LEAVING SAID WEST LINE NORTH 890911" EAST, 393.50 FEET TO A 5/8" REBAR SET; THENCE NORTH 0023 20" WEST, 60.00 FEET TO A 5/8" REBAR SET; THENCE NORTH 890911" EAST, 946.22 FEET (PASSING THROUGH A 5/8" REBAR SET AT 906.22 FEET) TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. CONTAINING 8.60 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, AND SUBJECT TO ALL LEGAL RIGHTS-OF-WAY AND EASEMENT. (THIS DESCRIPTION IS FROM A SURVEY RECORDED JANUARY 13, 2015 AS INSTRUMENT NO.20150116 AND IS DESIGNATED AS TRACT 3 ON SUCH SURVEY.)

More commonly known as: 845 N Borcharding Rd, Madison, IN 47250  
Parcel No. 39-08-3 I-000-009.003-006

Together with rents, issues, income, and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisal laws.  
"Subject to all liens, encumbrances and easements of record not otherwise extinguished in the proceedings known as Cause No. 39C01-2310-MF-000868 in the Circuit/Superior Court of the County of Jefferson, Indiana."  
Plaintiff Attorney:  
Matthew C. Gladwell (30493-49)  
Christopher J. Arlinghaus (31680-15)  
Aaron Rodgers (28418-84)  
Reisenfeld & Associates LLC  
3962 Red Bank Road  
Cincinnati, OH 45227 Ben Flint, Sheriff of Jefferson County  
Voice: (513) 322-7000 845 N Borcharding Rd, Madison, IN 47250  
Facsimile: (513) 322-7099 Street Address

SHERIFF FILE NO.  
SERVICE DIRECTED TO: The Sheriff's Department does not warrant the accuracy of the street addressed published herein.  
Hope R Draper Todd Parr  
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Louisville, KY 40229 Louisville, KY 40229

Unknown Occupant, if any Mariner Finance, LLC  
845 N Borcharding Rd Serve Highest Officer Found  
Madison, IN 47250 135 North Pennsylvania Street,  
Suite 1610  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

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The City of Madison is hiring a Project and Grant Manager to support the city's grant management efforts, ensure compliance with SBOA and DLGF regulations, and manage reporting requirements. This role includes data collection, project coordination, and supporting city departments in grant-related activities. Salary range: \$45,000–\$50,000.

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